



The marathon is a 26-mile-long race that winds through the park. Rachel knows that she ran  $\frac{7}{12}$  of the route because she counted the markers as she ran and she stopped when she got to the seventh marker. Mark really wanted to do better than he did last year. He used the water stations to keep track of how he was doing. They stand at every eighth of the course. He knew when he got to the fourth water station that he had run halfway. He ran to the next one—the fifth—and then he stopped.

- How did Mark know that the fourth water station was the halfway point?
  
- Did both Mark and Rachel run farther this year than they ran last year?
  
- How many miles did each of them run this year?
  
- How can you assure the community that your conclusions are correct?