

Task:

The activity below is designed to promote discussion around the concept of “more” and to provide an opportunity for learners to reason multiplicatively (**relative comparison**) about comparison.

Task: During dinner at a local restaurant, the five people sitting at Table A and the ten people sitting at Table B ordered the drinks shown below. Later, the waitress was heard referring to one of the groups as the “coke drinkers.” To which table was she referring?

Table A



Table B



Thoughts for teachers:

- What mathematics do you want your students to learn from engaging with this task?
- When would you decide to use this task with your students?
- What prior knowledge should your students bring to the task?
- What do you think your students might find difficult about this task?
- What questions might you ask as your students as they are working on the task
 - How might an additive thinker answer which is the coke table?
 - How might they justify their reasoning?
 - How might a multiplicative (relative) thinker respond to this task?
 - How might they justify their reasoning?
- What are the features of this task that make it good for engaging students in discussion around the idea of ‘more’
- How would you manage this task in a mixed ability setting?

- How could you extend those who reason multiplicatively about *'more'*?
- How could you help those who reason additively begin to think multiplicatively about comparison?

Problem solving reminder: If you are going to use this task remember, answers are important but what is more important is the mathematics students can learn from engaging with the tasks.