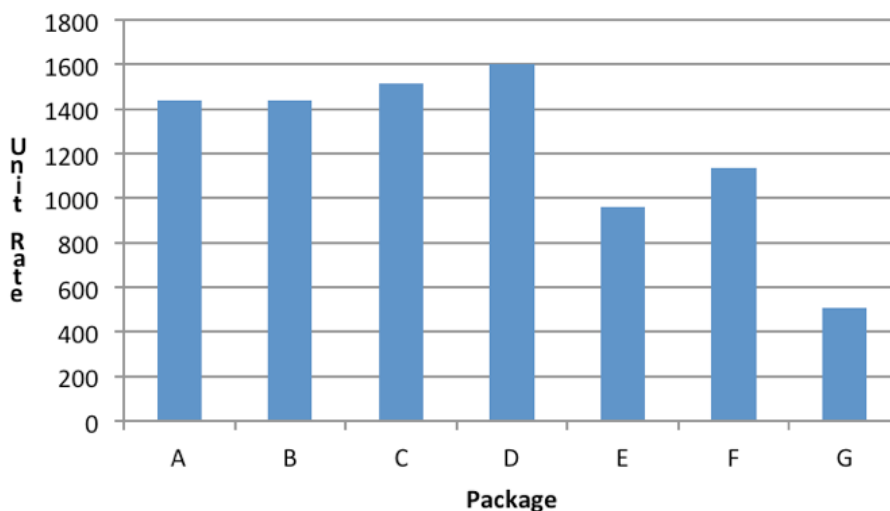


Which Is the Better Deal?

Valerie Rickert

To compare the unit rates more easily, students could create a bar graph that shows the types of packages versus their unit rate. See the sample bar graph below.



| | Number of Items per Pkg. | Volume per Item (mL) | Total Volume per Pkg. (mL) | Sale Price (\$) | Unit Rate |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------|
| A | 6 bottles | 710 | $6 \times 710 = 4,260$ mL | 3 for 8.88 | $\frac{3 \times 4,260}{8.88} = 1,439.19$ mL/\$ |
| B | 12 cans | 355 | $12 \times 355 = 4,260$ | 3 for 8.88 | $\frac{3 \times 4,260}{8.88} = 1,439.19$ mL/\$ |
| C | 1 bottle | 1500 | 1,500 | 0.99 each | $\frac{1,500}{0.99} = 1,515.15$ mL/\$ |
| D | 1 bottle | 2000 | 2,000 | 4 for 5.00 | $\frac{4 \times 2,000}{5.00} = 1,600$ mL/\$ |
| E | 8 bottles | 355 | $8 \times 355 = 2,840$ | 3 for 8.88 | $\frac{3 \times 2,840}{8.88} = 959.46$ mL/\$ |
| F | 24 cans | 355 | $24 \times 355 = 8,520$ | 7.49 per case | $\frac{8,520}{7.49} = 1,137.52$ mL/\$ |
| G | 8 cans | 222 | $8 \times 222 = 1,776$ | 3.49 each | $\frac{1,776}{3.49} = 508.88$ mL/\$ |

1. $700 \times 30 = 21,000$ mL needed
2. Best buy: package D (2 L bottles)
3. Worst Buy: package G (8 cans)
4. $21,000 \div 2,000 = 10.5$ bottles; 11 bottles must be purchased
5. Total cost = \$13.75. Eight bottles cost \$10.00 ($2 \times \5.00); 3 bottles cost \$3.75 ($\$5.00 \times 4 = \1.25 per bottle; $3 \times \$1.25$). *Note:* Assume that individual bottles can be purchased at the same price per bottle.
6. $\$20.00 - \$13.75 = \$6.25$ remain