These instruments can all be used to measure mass. The accuracy is shown as the possible error in the reading, and the  $\pm$  symbol means 'plus or minus'. For example, if the kitchen scales show a mass of 50 g, the true mass could be between 40 g and 60 g.

- **C** Analytical balance **A** Kitchen scales **B** School lab balance Range: 5 g to 5 kg Range: 0.1 g to 200 g Range: 0.2 mg to 65 g Accuracy: ± 0.1 g Accuracy: ± 10 g Accuracy:  $\pm 0.1 \text{ mg} (0.001 \text{ g})$ Cost: £15 Cost: £30 Cost: £600 These instruments can all be used to measure length. **D** Tape measure **E** Laser distance estimator F Laser distance measurer Range: 10 cm to 50 m Range : 0.5 m to 20 m Range: up to 200 m Accuracy: ± 2 mm over 10 m Accuracy: ± 1 mm Accuracy: ± 0.5% Cost: £25 (5 mm over 1 m, 5 cm over 10 m) Cost: £450 Cost: £30 1 Explain which instrument you would you use to do the following tasks. Give as many reasons as you can for each choice. a measure out the substances to use in a school chemistry investigation
  - **b** measure out the ingredients for a cake
  - c measure out the mass of drug to make up an injection.
- 2 a Explain how you could test the precision of instruments A to C.
  - **b** Explain which one(s) you would expect to be the most precise.
- 3 Mr Brown is measuring a room in his house to work out how much paint he needs. Suggest some reasons why he might use **E** rather than **D** for his measurements.
- 4 Instruments **C** and **F** are very expensive. Suggest some people who might use these instruments and why they are prepared to pay for them.

l can...

• use information about accuracy to choose apparatus.

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