



"The kohanim guarded in 3 places, the leviim in 21 places...5 in the 5 gates of the Azarah."

"There were 7 gates in the Azarah."



Pirush hamishnayos: this Mishnah holds 5 gates, most hold 7gates. Chachamim:7 gates, 5 are guarded by leviim.



This must be Ravah's opinion (like chachamim).



Why didn't Ravah/Rambam say its 1 opinion?



Rambam: "there were 7 gates and the leviim guarded 5, because the other 2 were guarded by kohanim."



Why does he say like Abaya?



Abaya: there were 7 gates and only 5 need guards.



Ravah: one opinion holds 5 other holds 7.



Why does the Mishnah give a count if it says what they all are?



The Mishnah is saying there are 7 (out of 13) which have the **Halachah** of a gate, (the difference being for 1. guarding 2. halachos of coming in the beis Hamikdash 3. mezuzah).



Ravah/Rambam is saying there are 2 opinions how many have the **Halachah** of gates.



Because if the 1st Mishnah holds there are 7 with the **Halachah** of gates it should mention how they are all guarded as **gates**.



Now we also understand the diyuk of the Rambam "...the Kohanim guard the **Mokad gate**".

Saying they have the **Halachah** of a gate which needs guards, and kohanim guard it because it's also a *beis* which kohanim guard.