

Comparing and Ordering 3-Digit Numbers

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 24

Q Quick Review

To **compare** two numbers, look at the digits from **left to right**. Start with the hundreds place. The first place where the digits are different tells you which number is bigger. We use $>$ for *greater than*, $<$ for *less than*, and $=$ for *equal to*. A helpful trick: the open side of the symbol always faces the bigger number. To **order** numbers from least to greatest, compare them two at a time and line them up.

◇ **Example:** Compare 463 and 458 using $>$, $<$, or $=$.

⇒ Let's check the digits from left to right. The hundreds digits are both 4, so that is a tie. Next, the tens digits: 463 has a 6 and 458 has a 5. Since 6 is greater than 5, the first number is bigger. So $463 > 458$.

Answer: $463 > 458$

PRACTICE

Compare using $<$, $>$, or $=$, or order the numbers as asked.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------|---|-------|
| 1. 246 \square 264 | _____ | 11. 299 \square 300 | _____ |
| 2. 539 \square 531 | _____ | 12. 817 \square 817 | _____ |
| 3. 708 \square 708 | _____ | 13. 763 \square 736 | _____ |
| 4. 185 \square 215 | _____ | 14. 148 \square 184 | _____ |
| 5. 640 \square 604 | _____ | 15. Order from least to greatest: 312, 321, 213 | _____ |
| 6. 372 \square 372 | _____ | 16. Order from least to greatest: 470, 407, 740 | _____ |
| 7. 926 \square 962 | _____ | 17. Order from greatest to least: 256, 265, 562 | _____ |
| 8. 410 \square 409 | _____ | 18. Order from greatest to least: 901, 910, 109 | _____ |
| 9. 127 \square 172 | _____ | 19. Order from least to greatest: 638, 683, 386 | _____ |
| 10. 550 \square 505 | _____ | 20. Order from greatest to least: 175, 715, 571 | _____ |

◆ Word Problems

21. In a game, Maya scored 284 points and Jack scored 248 points. Who scored more, and which symbol shows it? _____
22. Three classrooms have 315, 351, and 135 books. List the numbers of books from least to greatest. _____
23. A red box has 409 beads and a blue box has 490 beads. Which box has more beads? _____
24. Four friends saved coins: 620, 602, 260, and 206. Order the amounts from greatest to least. _____



Answer Keys

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. <input type="radio"/> < | 13. <input type="radio"/> > |
| 2. <input type="radio"/> > | 14. <input type="radio"/> < |
| 3. <input type="radio"/> = | 15. <input type="radio"/> 213, 312, 321 |
| 4. <input type="radio"/> < | 16. <input type="radio"/> 407, 470, 740 |
| 5. <input type="radio"/> > | 17. <input type="radio"/> 562, 265, 256 |
| 6. <input type="radio"/> = | 18. <input type="radio"/> 910, 901, 109 |
| 7. <input type="radio"/> < | 19. <input type="radio"/> 386, 638, 683 |
| 8. <input type="radio"/> > | 20. <input type="radio"/> 715, 571, 175 |
| 9. <input type="radio"/> < | 21. <input type="radio"/> Maya; 284 > 248 |
| 10. <input type="radio"/> > | 22. <input type="radio"/> 135, 315, 351 |
| 11. <input type="radio"/> < | 23. <input type="radio"/> The blue box |
| 12. <input type="radio"/> = | 24. <input type="radio"/> 620, 602, 260, 206 |

Step-by-Step Explanations

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|---|--|
| <p>1. The hundreds digits match; in the tens place $4 < 6$, so $246 < 264$.</p> <p>2. The hundreds and tens match; in the ones place $9 > 1$, so $539 > 531$.</p> <p>3. Every digit matches, so the numbers are equal.</p> <p>4. In the hundreds place $1 < 2$, so $185 < 215$.</p> <p>5. The hundreds digits match; in the tens place $4 > 0$, so $640 > 604$.</p> <p>6. All digits are the same, so the numbers are equal.</p> <p>7. The hundreds digits match; in the tens place $2 < 6$, so $926 < 962$.</p> <p>8. The hundreds digits tie; in the tens place $1 > 0$, so $410 > 409$.</p> <p>9. The hundreds digits match; in the tens place $2 < 7$, so $127 < 172$.</p> <p>10. The hundreds digits match; in the tens place $5 > 0$, so $550 > 505$.</p> <p>11. In the hundreds place $2 < 3$, so $299 < 300$.</p> <p>12. Every digit matches, so the numbers are equal.</p> <p>13. The hundreds digits match; in the tens place $6 > 3$, so $763 > 736$.</p> <p>14. The hundreds digits match; in the tens place $4 < 8$, so $148 < 184$.</p> | <p>15. Compare the hundreds digit: $2 < 3$, then tens: $312 < 321$.</p> <p>16. $407 < 470$ since $0 < 7$ in the tens, and 740 is biggest.</p> <p>17. 562 has the biggest hundreds; then $265 > 256$ in the ones.</p> <p>18. $910 > 901$ in the tens, and 109 is smallest.</p> <p>19. 386 has the smallest hundreds; then $638 < 683$ in the tens.</p> <p>20. Compare the hundreds digit: $7 > 5 > 1$, so $715 > 571 > 175$.</p> <p>21. The hundreds digits match. In the tens place, $8 > 4$, so $284 > 248$. Maya scored more.</p> <p>22. Compare the hundreds digit first: 135 starts with 1, so it is smallest. Then $315 < 351$, giving 135, 315, 351.</p> <p>23. Both start with 4. In the tens place, $0 < 9$, so $409 < 490$. The blue box has more beads.</p> <p>24. Compare the hundreds digit: $6 > 6 > 2 > 2$. For the two 6s, $620 > 602$; for the two 2s, $260 > 206$. So 620, 602, 260, 206.</p> |
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