

Comparing and Ordering Multi-Digit Numbers

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 24

Q Quick Review

To **compare** two numbers, line them up by place value and check the digits from **left to right**. The first place where the digits are different decides 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** a list of numbers, compare them two at a time.

Ascending order goes from least to greatest; **descending** order goes from greatest to least.

◇ **Example:** Compare 42,618 and 42,591 using $<$, $>$, or $=$.

⇒ Line the numbers up and check place by place, starting at the left. The ten thousands digits are both 4 — a tie. The thousands digits are both 2 — still tied. Now the hundreds: 42,618 has a 6 and 42,591 has a 5. Since 6 is greater than 5, the first number is greater. So $42,618 > 42,591$.

Answer: $42,618 > 42,591$

PRACTICE

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

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|---|-------|
| 1. $364 \square 367$ | _____ | 14. $71,205 \square 71,250$ | _____ |
| 2. $1,205 \square 1,250$ | _____ | 15. Order from least to greatest: 4,120, 4,210, 4,102 | _____ |
| 3. $8,900 \square 8,900$ | _____ | 16. Order from least to greatest: 36,500, 35,600, 36,050 | _____ |
| 4. $5,482 \square 5,428$ | _____ | 17. Order from greatest to least: 8,007, 8,070, 8,700 | _____ |
| 5. $12,600 \square 9,999$ | _____ | 18. Order from greatest to least: 52,910, 52,091, 52,190 | _____ |
| 6. $34,170 \square 34,170$ | _____ | 19. Order from least to greatest: 120,400, 102,400, 124,000 | _____ |
| 7. $60,305 \square 60,350$ | _____ | 20. Order from greatest to least: 9,990, 99,000, 9,009 | _____ |
| 8. $27,811 \square 27,809$ | _____ | | |
| 9. $45,000 \square 54,000$ | _____ | | |
| 10. $103,492 \square 103,429$ | _____ | | |
| 11. $250,000 \square 205,000$ | _____ | | |
| 12. $99,999 \square 100,000$ | _____ | | |
| 13. $418,760 \square 418,760$ | _____ | | |

◆ Word Problems

21. In a video game, Jordan scored 24,815 points and Sam scored 24,851 points. Who scored more, and which comparison symbol shows it? _____
22. Three towns have populations of 18,340, 18,043, and 18,430. List the towns' populations from least to greatest. _____
23. A library has 7,206 fiction books and 7,260 nonfiction books. Does the library have more fiction or nonfiction books? _____
24. Four friends collected cans: 1,204, 1,042, 1,420, and 1,240. Order the amounts from greatest to least. _____



Answer Keys

1. <
2. <
3. =
4. >
5. >
6. =
7. <
8. >
9. <
10. >
11. >
12. <

13. =
14. <
15. 4,102, 4,120, 4,210
16. 35,600, 36,050, 36,500
17. 8,700, 8,070, 8,007
18. 52,910, 52,190, 52,091
19. 102,400, 120,400, 124,000
20. 99,000, 9,990, 9,009
21. Sam; $24,851 > 24,815$
22. 18,043, 18,340, 18,430
23. More nonfiction books
24. 1,420, 1,240, 1,204, 1,042

Step-by-Step Explanations

1. The hundreds and tens match; in the ones place $4 < 7$, so $364 < 367$.
2. The thousands and hundreds match; in the tens place $0 < 5$, so $1,205 < 1,250$.
3. Every digit matches, so the numbers are equal.
4. The first two digits match; in the tens place $8 > 2$, so $5,482 > 5,428$.
5. 12,600 has 5 digits and 9,999 has 4, so 12,600 is greater.
6. All digits are the same, so the numbers are equal.
7. The first three digits match; in the tens place $0 < 5$, so $60,305 < 60,350$.
8. They match through the hundreds; in the tens place $1 > 0$, so $27,811 > 27,809$.
9. In the ten thousands place $4 < 5$, so $45,000 < 54,000$.
10. They match through the hundreds; in the tens place $9 > 2$, so $103,492 > 103,429$.
11. In the ten thousands place $5 > 0$, so $250,000 > 205,000$.
12. 99,999 has 5 digits and 100,000 has 6, so $99,999 < 100,000$.
13. Every digit matches, so the numbers are equal.
14. They match through the hundreds; in the tens place $0 < 5$, so $71,205 < 71,250$.
15. Compare the hundreds and tens: $4,102 < 4,120 < 4,210$.
16. 35,600 is smallest; then $36,050 < 36,500$.
17. 8,700 is largest, then 8,070, then 8,007.
18. Compare the hundreds: $9 > 1 > 0$, so $52,910 > 52,190 > 52,091$.
19. Compare the ten thousands: $102,400 < 120,400 < 124,000$.
20. 99,000 has 5 digits, so it is largest; then $9,990 > 9,009$.
21. The numbers match through the hundreds place. In the tens place, $5 > 1$, so $24,851 > 24,815$. Sam scored more.
22. All start with 18. Compare the hundreds digit: $0 < 3 < 4$, so the order is 18,043, 18,340, 18,430.
23. Both start with 7,2. In the tens place, $0 < 6$, so $7,206 < 7,260$. There are more nonfiction books.
24. All start with 1. Compare the hundreds digit: $4 > 2 > 2 > 0$, and for the two 2s compare the tens: $1,240 > 1,204$. So 1,420, 1,240, 1,204, 1,042.



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