

Comparing and Ordering Decimals

Grade 5 Math • Section 1.4

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: _____ / 14

Quick Review and Helpful Hints

👉 Comparing decimals: Line up the decimal points and compare digits from left to right. The first place where the digits differ tells you which number is larger.

👉 Annexing zeros: $0.5 = 0.50 = 0.500$. Adding zeros to the right of the last decimal digit does **not** change the value.

💡 Use $<$, $>$, or $=$ to compare.

🔍 Example: Compare 4.538 and 4.54.

👉 Write 4.54 as 4.540 so both numbers have three decimal places. Now compare digit by digit from left to right. Ones: both 4. Tenths: both 5. Hundredths: 3 vs. 4. Since $3 < 4$, we have $4.538 < 4.540$.

💡 Answer: $4.538 < 4.54$

🔗 Practice Problems

Write $<$, $>$, or $=$ to compare each pair.

1. 0.72 ○ 0.720 _____

2. 3.45 ○ 3.405 _____

3. 0.089 ○ 0.1 _____

4. 12.6 ○ 12.60 _____

5. 5.009 ○ 5.01 _____

6. 7.830 ○ 7.83 _____

7. 0.4 ○ 0.400 _____

8. 6.15 ○ 6.105 _____

9. 0.52 ○ 0.520 _____

10. 9.091 ○ 9.19 _____

11. Order from least to greatest: 3.2, 3.02, 3.22 _____

12. Order from greatest to least: 0.505, 0.55, 0.5 _____

📝 Word Problems

13. Three runners finish a race in 12.4 seconds, 12.38 seconds, and 12.401 seconds. Order their times from fastest (least) to slowest (greatest). _____

14. Carlos says 0.30 is greater than 0.3 because $30 > 3$. Is he correct? Explain your reasoning. _____



Answer Keys

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

Step-by-Step Explanations

1. Start with the main idea. For comparing and ordering decimals, write both decimals to the same number of places: 0.72 and 0.720. Therefore the symbol is =. Line up decimal places before comparing so tenths are compared with tenths and hundredths with hundredths.

2. Keep the work tidy. For comparing and ordering decimals, write both decimals to the same number of places: 3.45 and 3.405. Therefore the symbol is >. Adding trailing zeros can make the comparison easier without changing the number.

3. Look at what the numbers mean. For comparing and ordering decimals, write both decimals to the same number of places: 0.089 and 0.1. Therefore the symbol is <. For race times, remember that a smaller time means a faster finish.

4. Use the setup first. For comparing and ordering decimals, write both decimals to the same number of places: 12.6 and 12.60. Therefore the symbol is =. Line up decimal places before comparing so tenths are compared with tenths and hundredths with hundredths.

5. Check the size of the answer. For comparing and ordering decimals, write both decimals to the same number of places: 5.009 and 5.01. Therefore the symbol is <. Adding trailing zeros can make the comparison easier without changing the number.

6. Match the operation to the words. For comparing and ordering decimals, write both decimals to the same number of places: 7.830 and 7.83. Therefore the symbol is =. For race times, remember that a smaller time means a faster finish.

7. Write the important values first. For comparing and ordering decimals, write both decimals to the same number of places: 0.4 and 0.400. Therefore the

symbol is =. Line up decimal places before comparing so tenths are compared with tenths and hundredths with hundredths.

8. Follow the pattern carefully. For comparing and ordering decimals, write both decimals to the same number of places: 6.15 and 6.105. Therefore the symbol is >. Adding trailing zeros can make the comparison easier without changing the number.

9. Start with the main idea. For comparing and ordering decimals, write both decimals to the same number of places: 0.52 and 0.520. Therefore the symbol is =. For race times, remember that a smaller time means a faster finish.

10. Keep the work tidy. For comparing and ordering decimals, write both decimals to the same number of places: 9.091 and 9.19. Therefore the symbol is <. Line up decimal places before comparing so tenths are compared with tenths and hundredths with hundredths.

11. Look at what the numbers mean. For comparing and ordering decimals, compare by place value: $3.020 < 3.200 < 3.220$. Adding trailing zeros can make the comparison easier without changing the number.

12. Use the setup first. For comparing and ordering decimals, compare thousandths: $0.550 > 0.505 > 0.500$. For race times, remember that a smaller time means a faster finish.

13. Check the size of the answer. For comparing and ordering decimals, fastest means least time: $12.380 < 12.400 < 12.401$. Line up decimal places before comparing so tenths are compared with tenths and hundredths with hundredths.

14. Match the operation to the words. For comparing and ordering decimals, 0.30 and 0.3 name the same amount because trailing zeros do not change a decimal's value. Adding trailing zeros can make the comparison easier without changing the number.



Want Even More Practice?

Check Out Our Other West Virginia WVGSA Test Books!



West Virginia WVGSA Grade 5 Math Preparation Bundle

18 full-length practice tests across three books
(5 + 6 + 7)

No repeated questions—maximum practice value!



18 Tests!
3 Books
One Bundle

Important: All our test books contain **unique, completely different tests** from each other! Each book offers fresh practice questions—no repeats!

5 Practice Tests

- ✓ 5 complete practice tests with detailed explanations
- ✓ Perfect foundation for WVGSA test preparation
- ✓ Builds confidence and test-taking skills
- ✓ High-quality questions aligned with state standards

Start your practice journey!

6 Practice Tests

- ✓ 6 complete practice tests with detailed explanations
- ✓ **Unique tests**—different from the 5 tests book
- ✓ Perfect for more practice after mastering 5 tests
- ✓ Builds even more confidence and test-taking skills
- ✓ Same high-quality questions aligned with standards

Take your practice to the next level!

7 Practice Tests

- ✓ 7 complete practice tests for maximum preparation
- ✓ **Unique tests**—different from 5 and 6 tests books
- ✓ The most comprehensive practice for Grade 5
- ✓ Ideal for students aiming for top scores
- ✓ Extensive practice builds mastery and confidence

Go all the way with comprehensive practice!