MATHEMATICS · GRADES 4-6

Comparing and ordering decimals

Difficulty level: Intermediate

Mathematics: Grades 4-6

This document was made by AI and there may be mistakes. If a question or answer looks wrong, use the Flag a mistake button to let Brett know so he can fix it.

Overview of the concept

This is how you tell which price, race time, or measurement is bigger. You compare decimals place by place instead of assuming more digits means a bigger number, because 0.9 is bigger than 0.85 even though it has fewer digits. Getting this right stops you from overpaying or misreading a close race.



© 2026 Brett Robbins. All Rights Reserved.

Worked examples

EXAMPLE 1

Q Which is bigger: 0.45 or 0.5?

SOLUTION

0.45 vs 0.50

Tenths: 4 vs 5

5 is bigger -> 0.5

Line up the decimal points and add a zero so both have two places: 0.45 and 0.50.

Compare the tenths first: 4 versus 5.

5 is bigger, so 0.5 is bigger.

EXAMPLE 2

Q Order smallest to largest 0.7, 0.65, 0.8

SOLUTION

0.70, 0.65, 0.80

Tenths: 7, 6, 8

Order: 0.65, 0.7, 0.8

Write all with two places: 0.70, 0.65, 0.80.

Compare the tenths: 6 is smallest, then 7, then 8.

Order: 0.65, 0.7, 0.8

© 2026 Brett Robbins. All Rights Reserved.

Practice questions

1 Two jumps measure 0.35 m and 0.4 m. Which jump is longer?

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

2 Which score is bigger: 0.7 or 0.65?

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

© 2026 Brett Robbins. All Rights Reserved.

3 Three race times are:
0.9 seconds
0.85 seconds
0.95 seconds
Put them in order from smallest to largest.

- **A** 0.9, 0.85, 0.95
- **B** 0.85, 0.9, 0.95
- **C** 0.95, 0.9, 0.85
- **D** 0.85, 0.95, 0.9

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

4 Which is smaller: 1.2 or 1.25?

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

© 2026 Brett Robbins. All Rights Reserved.

5 Two times are 12.5 seconds and 12.45 seconds. Which time is faster?

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

6 Put these in order from largest to smallest:
0.3
0.35
0.25

A 0.3, 0.35, 0.25

B 0.25, 0.3, 0.35

C 0.35, 0.25, 0.3

D 0.35, 0.3, 0.25

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

© 2026 Brett Robbins. All Rights Reserved.

7 A jump of 0.09 m and a jump of 0.1 m. Which jump is longer?

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

8 Which is smaller: 2.05 or 2.5?

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

9 Which decimal is closest to 1?

A 0.9

B 1.2

C 0.8

D 1.5

Understand It with Pulse | Flag a mistake

© 2026 Brett Robbins. All Rights Reserved.

10

Which is bigger: 0.45 or 0.450?

A 0.45

B 0.450

C They are equal

D You cannot tell

Understand It with Pulse

Flag a mistake

© 2026 Brett Robbins. All Rights Reserved.

ANSWER KEY

1. 0.4

2. 0.7

3. 0.85, 0.9, 0.95

4. 1.2

5. 12.45

6. 0.35, 0.3, 0.25

7. 0.1

8. 2.05

9. 0.9

10. They are equal

© 2026 Brett Robbins. All Rights Reserved.