Y3 Comparing Ordering Fractions

KS2 Maths · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

Compare 3/8 and 5/8.

Step 1 · The denominators are the same

Both are cut into 8 equal parts

Step 2 · Compare the numerators

5 parts is more than 3 parts

Answer: 3/8 < 5/8

Check: Draw two bars of 8. Shade 3 and 5. The 5/8 bar has more shaded.

2. Now try one with the steps

Compare 1/3 and 1/6.

Step 1 · Both are unit fractions (numerator 1)

Step 2 · Thirds: cut into 3. Sixths: cut into 6

Answer:

3. Practice

Have a go at each one. There is space underneath to work it out.

1. Which is greater: 2/5 or 4/5?

2. Which is smaller: 7/10 or 3/10?

3. Which is greater: 1/2 or 1/4?

4. Which is smaller: 1/3 or 1/8?

5. Write <, > or =: 5/6 __ 1/6

6. Write <, > or =: 1/5 __ 1/4

7. Order from smallest to greatest: 5/9, 2/9, 8/9

8. Order from smallest to greatest: 1/3, 1/10, 1/5

9. Order from greatest to smallest: 1/2, 1/8, 1/6, 1/3

10. Write a unit fraction that is smaller than 1/4.

11. Write <, > or =: 2/4 __ 1/2

12. Freya ate 1/4 of a pie. Hassan ate 1/3 of the same pie. Who ate more?

13. A jug is 3/8 full. Another identical jug is 5/8 full. How many more eighths does the first jug need to match the second?

14. Max says 1/9 is bigger than 1/5 because 9 is bigger than 5. Which fraction is really bigger?

4. Before you hand it in

Saying 1/8 > 1/4 because 8 > 4.
The denominator tells you how many pieces. More pieces → smaller pieces, so 1/8 < 1/4.

Using the unit fraction rule for 3/8 and 5/8.
Same denominator: just compare how many pieces. 5/8 > 3/8.

Comparing fractions of different-sized wholes.

Only compare fractions of the same whole.

Ordering in the wrong direction.

Underline the order in the question, and check the first fraction is the smallest one.