

Comparing and ordering decimals to thousandths

MODULE 1 · PLACE VALUE, DECIMALS AND THE NUMBER SYSTEM NUMBER

To compare decimals, **line up the decimal points** and compare place by place **from the left**. Fill short ones with trailing zeros so they have the same length.

U	t	h	th

- Compare 0.5 and 0.45 → write 0.500 and 0.450 → **0.5 is greater**.
- 0.62, 0.6, 0.609 in order: 0.6, 0.609, 0.62.

PUT 0.7, 0.71 AND 0.709 IN ORDER, SMALLEST FIRST

- Give them equal lengths: **0.700, 0.710, 0.709**.
- Compare hundredths, then thousandths.
- Order: **0.7, 0.709, 0.71**.

HOW TO ANSWER TODAY

- Compare or order.** Compare one place at a time, starting from the LEFT. Use < (less than), > (greater than), or = (equal).
3.45 < 3.54 · Smallest → largest: 0.7, 0.71, 1.07

WARM-UP

Insert <, > or =

a. 2.6 5.1

b. 7 6

c. 9.3 8.9

d. 5.9 9.9

PRACTICE

- Three pupils in 5th class run a sponsored cycle for Cumann na mBunscol. Cian cycles **9.66 km**, Saoirse cycles **7.15 km** and Oisín cycles **9.44 km**. Order the distances from smallest to largest.
- On the coach trip to the Burren, 5th class log the rainfall in millimetres on three different days of their nature project. The amounts recorded are **7.02 mm**, **1.83 mm** and **4.03 mm**. Order the rainfalls from smallest to largest.

SPOT THE MISTAKE

Liam says 0.45 is bigger than 0.5:

0.45 has 45 in it.
0.5 only has 5.
So $0.45 > 0.5$.

Find Liam's mistake. Which is actually bigger?

IRISH FACT

Ireland's highest peak

Carrauntoohil, in Co. Kerry, rises to **1,038 m** — the tallest mountain in Ireland.

Ordnance Survey Ireland

