

Fraction Face-Off

Compare unit fractions by thinking about equal parts.

GRADE 3 • 3.NR.4.2

3.NR.4.2 "Compare two unit fractions by flexibly using a variety of tools and strategies."

NAME _____

DATE _____

BIGGER PIECES, SMALLER DENOMINATORS

For unit fractions with the same whole, the smaller denominator names the larger fraction. A smaller denominator means the whole is split into fewer equal pieces, so each piece is bigger.

WORKED EXAMPLE

Compare $\frac{1}{13}$ and $\frac{1}{15}$.

1. Both fractions name one equal part of the same whole.
2. A whole split into 13 equal parts has bigger pieces than a whole split into 15 equal parts.
3. So $\frac{1}{13}$ is greater than $\frac{1}{15}$.

Answer: $\frac{1}{13} > \frac{1}{15}$

PRACTICE 6 problems

- 1** Write $<$ or $>$. $\frac{1}{2}$ ____ $\frac{1}{8}$

ANSWER _____

- 2** Circle the greater fraction: $\frac{1}{6}$ or $\frac{1}{11}$.

ANSWER _____

- 3** Write $<$ or $>$. $\frac{1}{12}$ ____ $\frac{1}{4}$

ANSWER _____

- 4** Which fraction is greater: $\frac{1}{9}$ or $\frac{1}{3}$?

ANSWER _____

- 5** Write these fractions from least to greatest: $\frac{1}{5}$, $\frac{1}{7}$.

ANSWER _____

- 6** Mia says $\frac{1}{10}$ is greater than $\frac{1}{6}$ because 10 is greater than 6. Is Mia correct? Write the correct comparison.

ANSWER _____

APPLY IT Show your work

- 1** At snack time, Jo eats $\frac{1}{4}$ of an identical-size granola bar. Eli eats $\frac{1}{6}$ of an identical-size granola bar. Who eats more?

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

- 2** Nina paints $\frac{1}{7}$ of a poster. Omar paints $\frac{1}{9}$ of an identical-size poster. Who paints more of a poster?

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

CHALLENGE One step up

CHALLENGE

Put $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{5}$, $\frac{1}{10}$, and $\frac{1}{3}$ in order from least to greatest. Then explain how you know.

PART 1 • PRACTICE

#	PROBLEM	ANSWER
1	Write < or >. $\frac{1}{2}$ ____ $\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{2} > \frac{1}{8}$
2	Circle the greater fraction: $\frac{1}{6}$ or $\frac{1}{11}$.	$\frac{1}{6}$
3	Write < or >. $\frac{1}{12}$ ____ $\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{12} < \frac{1}{4}$
4	Which fraction is greater: $\frac{1}{9}$ or $\frac{1}{3}$?	$\frac{1}{3}$
5	Write these fractions from least to greatest: $\frac{1}{5}$, $\frac{1}{7}$.	$\frac{1}{7}$, $\frac{1}{5}$
6	Mia says $\frac{1}{10}$ is greater than $\frac{1}{6}$ because 10 is greater than 6. Is Mia correct? Write the correct comparison.	No. $\frac{1}{10} < \frac{1}{6}$.

PART 2 • APPLY IT

1. **Jo eats more because $\frac{1}{4} > \frac{1}{6}$.** Compare the unit fractions. Fourths are larger pieces than sixths, so $\frac{1}{4}$ is greater than $\frac{1}{6}$.
2. **Nina paints more because $\frac{1}{7} > \frac{1}{9}$.** Compare the unit fractions. Sevenths are larger pieces than ninths, so $\frac{1}{7}$ is greater than $\frac{1}{9}$.

CHALLENGE

$\frac{1}{10}$, $\frac{1}{5}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{2}$. For unit fractions, a larger denominator means a smaller equal piece.

Accept correct comparison symbols or words such as greater than and less than. For the challenge, accept any clear explanation that connects a larger denominator to smaller equal parts.