

Number Comparison Quest

Use place value to compare whole numbers.

GRADE 3 • 3.NS.2.a

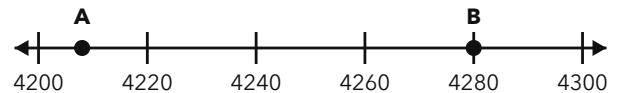
3.NS.2.a "Compare two whole numbers, each 9,999 or less, using symbols ($>$, $<$, $=$, $\neq$) and/or words (greater than, less than, equal to, not equal to), with and without models."

NAME _____

DATE _____

COMPARE BY PLACE VALUE

Align the ones, tens, hundreds and thousands places. Treat missing higher places as zero. Begin with the greatest place used by either number and move right until the digits differ. The greater digit decides the greater number. If all digits match, the numbers are equal.



WORKED EXAMPLE

Compare $A = 4,208$ with $B = 4,280$ using $<$ or $>$. The number line shows their positions.

1. Both numbers have 4 thousands.
2. Both numbers have 2 hundreds.
3. Compare the tens: 0 tens is less than 8 tens.
4. Put $<$ between the numbers.

Answer: $4,208 < 4,280$

PRACTICE 6 problems

- 1** Use $<$ or $>$ to compare 3,476 and 3,467.

ANSWER _____

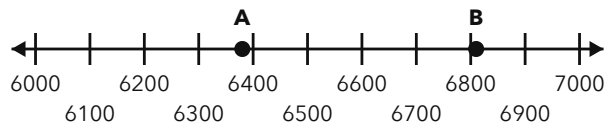
- 2** Write $=$ or $\neq$ to compare 8,090 and 8,090.

ANSWER _____

- 3** Use $<$ or $>$ to compare 702 and 720.

ANSWER _____

- 4** Point A is 6,380. Point B is 6,810. Use $<$ or $>$ to compare the numbers.



ANSWER _____

- 5** Use $<$ or $>$ to compare 9,999 and 9,989.

ANSWER _____

- 6** Are 5,504 and 5,540 equal or not equal? Write the words.

ANSWER _____

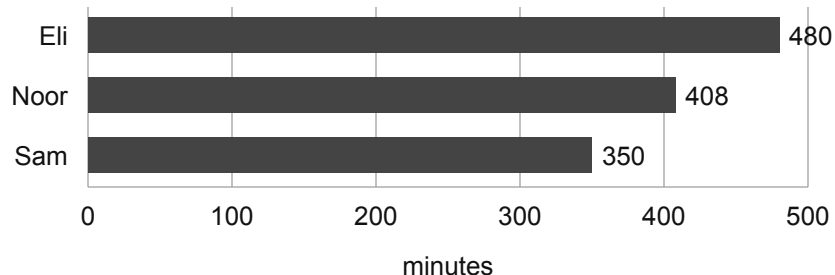
APPLY IT Show your work

- 1** At an arcade, Maya earned 3,609 tickets. Omar earned 3,690 tickets. Complete the comparison with $<$ or $>$: 3,609 ____ 3,690.

WORK SPACE

2

Over one month, Eli read 480 minutes and Noor read 408 minutes. Use the graph and place value to compare 480 and 408 with $<$ or $>$.

MONTHLY READING MINUTES**CHALLENGE** One step up

Lena says, "6,431 is not equal to 6,413." Is Lena correct? Explain using place value. Then write a comparison using $>$.

PRACTICE 1

Use $<$ or $>$ to compare 3,476 and 3,467.

$$3,476 > 3,467$$

PRACTICE 2

Write $=$ or $\neq$ to compare 8,090 and 8,090.

$$8,090 = 8,090$$

PRACTICE 3

Use $<$ or $>$ to compare 702 and 720.

$$702 < 720$$

PRACTICE 4

Point A is 6,380. Point B is 6,810. Use $<$ or $>$ to compare the numbers.

$$6,380 < 6,810$$

PRACTICE 5

Use $<$ or $>$ to compare 9,999 and 9,989.

$$9,999 > 9,989$$

PRACTICE 6

Are 5,504 and 5,540 equal or not equal? Write the words.

not equal

APPLY IT 1

$$3,609 < 3,690$$

The thousands and hundreds digits match. In the tens place, 0 is less than 9, so 3,609 is less than 3,690.

APPLY IT 2

$$480 > 408$$

Both numbers have 4 hundreds. In the tens place, 8 is greater than 0, so 480 is greater than 408.

CHALLENGE

**Yes. Both numbers have 6 thousands and 4 hundreds, but 6,431 has 3 tens and 6,413 has 1 ten.
6,431 > 6,413.**

Accept the correct comparison words when a student is asked to write words. For the challenge, accept any accurate place-value explanation that shows why 6,431 is greater than 6,413. For different digit counts, align corresponding places and treat missing higher digits as zero; 702 has zero thousands. Check both numerical order and the chosen symbol.