

Short Answer Questions: Comparing fractions with unlike denominators

Math · Grade 4

Name: _____ Date: _____

I am learning to: Compare fractions with unlike denominators using benchmark fractions and common denominators

For each question, show your thinking. You may use drawings, words, or numbers. Write your answer in 1 to 4 sentences. Choose one strategy to help you compare fractions: benchmark fractions (is it more or less than one half?) or finding a common denominator (rewrite both fractions with the same bottom number).

1. 1. Why is it hard to compare $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{3}{8}$ when we look at them side by side? Explain using the word denominator.
2. 2. Which is greater: $\frac{2}{5}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$? Use a benchmark fraction to decide. Show how you know.
3. 3. Compare $\frac{3}{4}$ and $\frac{5}{6}$ using a common denominator. Which fraction is greater? Record your answer with a symbol ($>$ or $<$).
4. 4. Your friend says $\frac{4}{8}$ is bigger than $\frac{5}{10}$. Is your friend correct? Use a strategy to check. Explain your answer.
5. 5. Use benchmarks to compare $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{2}{3}$. Which fraction is closer to one half? How does this help you know which is bigger?
6. 6. Compare $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{7}$ two different ways: first use a benchmark, then use a common denominator. Do both strategies give you the same answer?