Ordering Fractions

Rule #1- If the denominators are the same, the fraction with the greatest numerator has the greatest value.

Example: Arrange the following fractions in ascending order (smallest first).

$\frac{1}{7}, \frac{5}{7}, \frac{4}{7}, \frac{6}{7}$ $\quad$ $least\ to\ greatest = \frac{1}{7}, \frac{4}{7}, \frac{5}{7}, \frac{6}{7}$

Write the following fractions is ascending order.

a) $\frac{6}{9}, \frac{1}{9}, \frac{5}{9}, \frac{3}{9} =$

b) $\frac{2}{10}, \frac{9}{10}, \frac{8}{10}, \frac{4}{10} =$

c) $\frac{6}{13}, \frac{1}{13}, \frac{12}{13}, \frac{10}{13} =$

d) $\frac{7}{8}, \frac{3}{8}, \frac{5}{8}, \frac{1}{8} =$

e) $\frac{5}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{9}{4}, \frac{2}{4} =$

f) $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{15}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{9}{2} =$

Rule #2- If the denominators are different, find the Lowest Common Multiple (LCM) and multiply the fractions to show the equivalent fractions with the LCM as the denominator.

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E.g Write the following fractions in ascending order (smallest first).

$\frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{8}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{7}{8}$

Step 1: If the denominators are different, find the LCM.

4- 4, 8, 12, 16, 20 8- 8, 16, 24, 32 2- 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 LCM= 8

Step 2: Multiply the fractions to form equivalent fractions.

2 3 4 7

$\frac{1^{\times 2}}{4_{\times 2}}, \frac{3^{\times 1}}{8_{\times 1}}, \frac{1^{\times 4}}{2_{\times 4}}, \frac{7^{\times 1}}{8_{\times 1}}$

8 8 8 8

Step 3: Write the fractions in the correct order by looking at the numerator.

$\frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{8}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{7}{8} = \frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{8}, \frac{4}{8}, \frac{7}{8}$

Write the following fractions in ascending order.

a) $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{3} =$

b) $\frac{2}{5}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{2} =$

c) $\frac{1}{4}, \frac{5}{8}, \frac{1}{2} =$

d) $\frac{3}{5}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{3}{10} =$

e) $\frac{3}{4}, \frac{7}{12}, \frac{5}{12} =$

f) $\frac{3}{12}, \frac{5}{6}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{3} =$

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