Compare and Order Fractions and Mixed Numbers

The three fractions $\frac{2}{3}$, $\frac{3}{4}$ and $\frac{2}{6}$ are arguing about who is the largest.

You can settle the argument by finding a common multiple of the denominators.

STEP 1

Find the product of all three denominators. Use it for the denominator.

$$3 \times 4 \times 6 = 72$$

72 is the common multiple.

STEP 2

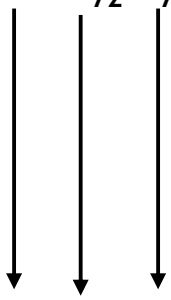
Rename each fraction so that 72 is the denominator.

$$\frac{2 \cdot 24}{3 \cdot 24} = \frac{48}{72} \quad \frac{3 \cdot 18}{4 \cdot 18} = \frac{54}{72} \quad \frac{2 \cdot 12}{6 \cdot 12} = \frac{24}{72}$$

STEP 3

Compare the numerator. Put them in order from least to greatest.

$$\frac{24}{72} < \frac{48}{72} < \frac{54}{72}$$



$$\frac{2}{6} < \frac{2}{3} < \frac{3}{4}$$

Examples:

A- Compare. Write <, > or =

1) $\frac{2}{5} < \frac{3}{5}$ 2) $\frac{1}{6} > \frac{1}{8}$ 3) $\frac{9}{18} = \frac{2}{4}$ 4) $\frac{7}{4} > \frac{5}{6}$

B- Write in order from least to greatest.

$\frac{1}{4}, \frac{7}{4}, \frac{4}{7}, \frac{1}{7}$ → $\frac{1}{7}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{4}{7}, \frac{7}{4}$