

## Comparison of Numbers



The signs '=' (equal to), '>' (greater than) and '<' (less than) are used to compare any two numbers.

The closed end of the signs '>', '<' always points towards the smaller number.

**Example**  $8 > 6$ ,  $41 < 85$



## Rules

1. The number with more digits is always greater.

**Example**  $1031 > 985$

2. When two numbers have the same number of digits (consider 4-digits).

(a) Consider the digit in the thousands place.

**Example** 2035, 3035

$$2 < 3$$

$$\therefore 2035 < 3035 \quad \text{or} \quad 3035 > 2035$$

$\therefore$  The number having the greater digit in the thousands place is greater.

- (b) If the digit in the thousands place is the same, then consider the digits in the hundreds place.

**Example** 2146, 2056

$$1 > 0$$

$$\therefore 2146 > 2056 \quad \text{or} \quad 2056 < 2146$$

- (c) If the digit in the thousands and hundreds place are the same, then compare the digits in the tens place. The number having the greater digit is greater.

**Example** 2146, 2156

$$4 < 5$$

$$\therefore 2146 < 2156 \quad \text{or} \quad 2156 > 2146$$

- (d) If the numbers have equal digits in the thousands, hundreds and tens place then compare the digits in the ones place.

**Example** 2143, 2146

$$3 < 6$$

$$\therefore 2143 < 2146 \quad \text{or} \quad 2146 > 2143$$

1. Fill in the blanks using '>', '<' or '='.

(a) 5017  5107

(c) 700  7000

(e) 4254  4245

(g) 4900  4090

(i) 3820  5641

(k) 2484  2462

(b) 8134  8143

(d) 6116  6016

(f) 8390  8390

(h) 5550  5549

(j) 9161  9170

(l) 3098  3058

