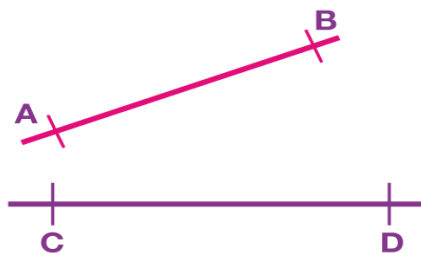


## Comparing Line Segments



### 1. By Observation

The most basic method of comparison of two line segments is simple observation. Just by observing two line segments, one can predict which is long or short compared to the other.



In the above figure, by observation itself, we can say that the line segment CD is greater in length as compared to the line segment AB. But this method has several disadvantage, every time we cannot rely simply on observation to compare two line segments.



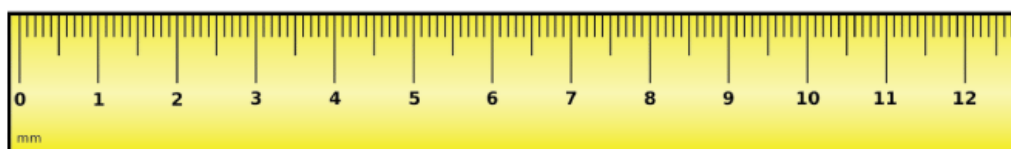
### 2. Using Trace Paper

With the help of trace paper, two line segments can be easily compared. Trace one line segment and place it over on the other segment and it can be easily deduced which is greater in length.



### 3. Using Ruler and Divider

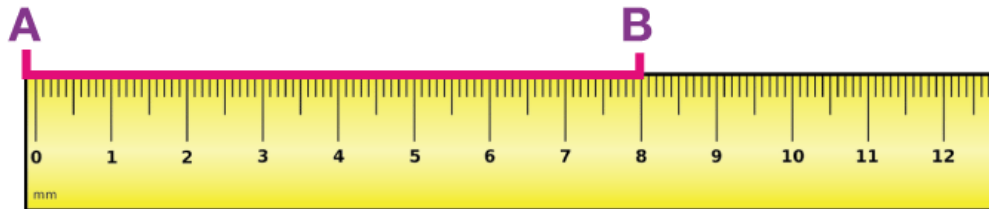
There are certain markings on the ruler beginning from zero as shown in the fig. given below, these markings divide the ruler into equal parts. Each part is equal to a length of 1 cm and these unit centimeters are further subdivided into 10 parts and each sub-part is equivalent to 1 millimeter.



## Comparing Line Segments



To measure a line segment AB, place the zero marking of the ruler along the beginning of the line and measure its length accordingly.



**In the figure given above, the length of line segment AB is 8 cm.**



To eliminate the positioning error we use a divider. Place one of the needles of the divider at A and other at B and then place the divider along the ruler and measure its length. This method is more accurate and reliable.