Comparing Decimals

For comparing decimal numbers, we take these steps.

Step 1: Compare the whole parts of the given numbers. The number with greater whole part will greater. If the whole parts are equal, go to next step.

Step 2: Compare the extreme left digits of the decimal parts of two numbers. The number with greater extreme left digit will be greater. If the extreme left digits of decimal parts are equal, then compare the next digits and so on.

Let us understand with some examples:

Example 1: Arrange 32.21, 2.324, 14.73, 6.4 in ascending order.

Solution: On converting the decimal fractions into like decimals, we get

32.210, 2.324, 14.730, 6.400

Now, 2.324 is the smallest decimal. The next decimal greater than 2.324 is 6.400.

The other decimals in ascending order are:

2.324, 6.400, 14.730, 32.210, i.e., 2.324, 6.4, 14.73, 32.21

Example 2: Arrange 2.49, 7.16, 23.5, 5.35 in descending order.

Solution: The greatest decimal is 23.5. The next decimal smaller than 23.5 is 7.16. The Other decimals in descending order are 5.35 and 2.49.

Hence, the given decimals in descending order are: 23.5, 7.16, 5.35, 2.49.