

### Comparing Numbers and Sequencing

When comparing numbers:

- Count the number of digits – the **fewer** the number of digits, the **smaller** the number.
- When two numbers have the same number of digits, **line up** place values, compare digits from **left to right**.

#### Example 1

Compare the two numbers: 369, 1200

##### Explanation

369 has **3** digits, 1,200 has **4** digits, therefore 1,200 is **greater than** 369.

#### Example 2

Compare the two numbers: 2456, 2235

##### Explanation

**Step 1:** Count the number of digits in each number. The number with fewer digits is always smaller. In this case, they both have 4 digits.

**Step 2:** Line up place values, compare digits from left to right.

2,456

2,235

They have the **same** thousands value (**2**). However the **hundreds** value is different.

2,456 has **4**. 2,235 has **2**.

Therefore, 2,456 is greater than 2,235.

#### Example 3

Rank from least to greatest: 1909, 1922, 1912

## Explanation

**Step 1:** Count the number of digits in each number. The number with more digits is always bigger. In this case, they all have 4 digits.

**Step 2:** Line up place values, compare digits from left to right. They have the **same** thousands value (**1**) and hundreds value (**9**).

We then compare the **tens place**.

1909 has **0**, 1922 has **2**, 1912 has **1**. Therefore  $2 > 1 > 0$ .

Therefore,  $1922 > 1912 > 1909$ .