

# Inequalities

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We use the symbol  $=$  to represent *equality*.

To express *inequalities*, we have the following symbols:

$>$	<b><i>greater than</i></b>
$<$	<b><i>less than</i></b>
$\geq$	<b><i>greater than or equal to</i></b>
$\leq$	<b><i>less than or equal to</i></b>
$\neq$	<b><i>not equal to</i></b>

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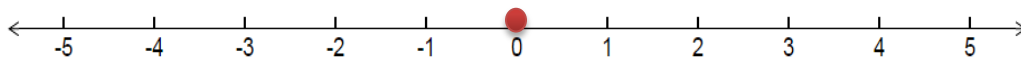
Example 1:

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True or False?

a)  $-3 < -4$

The symbol  $<$  means *less than*. Looking at the number line,  $<$  means "to the left of"



so,  $-3 < -4$  means  $-3$  is to the left of  $-4$  on the number line.

Therefore, this statement is *false*.

b) Consider  $x > 4$

This means  $x$  *greater than* and is *to the right of*  $4$  on the number line.

can  $x$  be  $5$ ?

can  $x$  be  $3$ ?

can  $x$  be  $4$ ?

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Example 2:

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True or False?

$$85 \geq 2[3 + 5(6 + 2)]$$

$$\geq 2[3 + 5(\underline{\quad})]$$

$$\geq 2[3 + \underline{\quad}]$$

$$2(\quad)$$

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: For example 2, we must follow the Order of Operations.

# Inequalities

## Practice Problems

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1. True or False?

a)  $5 > 7$

b)  $9 > 11$

c)  $-4 > -5$

d)  $-11 > -10$

2. True or False?

$$6[2^3 - 7] + 15 \geq 21$$