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What is Decimals

Decimals: The Bridge Between Whole Numbers and Fractions

DEFINITION

Decimals are numbers that represent parts of a whole, using a dot to separate whole numbers from fractions. They help us understand values less than one.

KEY CONCEPTS

Decimal Point

The decimal point is a dot that separates whole numbers from fractional parts.

Place Value

Each digit in a decimal has a specific place value that determines its size.

Rounding Decimals

Rounding decimals means adjusting them to a nearby value for simplicity.

Tenths, Hundredths

The first digit after the decimal represents tenths, the second represents hundredths.

Comparing Decimals

To compare decimals, look at the digits from left to right until you find a difference.

EXAMPLES

- 0.5 is the same as 5 tenths.
- 2.75 means 2 whole and 75 hundredths.
- 0.25 is equal to 25 hundredths.

MEMORY TIPS

- ★ Remember 'Decimal' has a 'dot' in it, just like the decimal point.
- ★ Think of tenths as 'ten' and hundredths as 'hundred' to remember their place values.
- ★ Use the phrase 'More to the right, smaller in size' for understanding decimal values.

COMMON MISTAKES

- ✗ Confusing the order of digits after the decimal point.
- ✗ Forgetting to line up decimal points when adding or subtracting.
- ✗ Misreading decimal places as whole numbers.

QUICK RECAP

Decimals are essential for understanding parts of a whole. Remember the decimal point and place values to work with them effectively. Practice comparing and rounding decimals to master the topic.