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It helps identify the maximum value in a set and allows for reverse analysis or prioritization. When sorting numbers in the descending order, we start with the largest value and move towards the smallest. Example: Before and After The words "before" and "after" are used to describe the position of a number in relation to another number. "Before" refers to a number that comes earlier in sequence, while "after" refers to a number that comes later. For example, Consider the sequence of numbers: 10, 20, 30, 40, 50. In this sequence, 30 comes after 20 and before 40. What is Successor and Predecessor? The terms "successor" and "predecessor" are used to describe numbers that come immediately after or before a given number, respectively. For example, The successor of the number 7 is 8 because 8 comes immediately after 7. For example, The predecessor of the number 15 is 14 because 14 comes immediately before 15. What is Greater Than and Less Than Symbols? Greater Than When we say that one number is greater or larger than another, we use the phrase "more than" to express this relationship. In mathematical terms, the symbol ">" is used to represent "more than." For example: 5 > 3: This statement indicates that 5 is more than 3. 10 > 7: Here, 10 is more than 7. In both cases, the symbol ">" conveys that the number on the left side of the symbol is greater or larger than the number on the right side. Less Than Conversely, when we say that one number is smaller or lesser than another, we use the phrase "less than." In mathematics, the symbol "<" is used to represent "less than." For example: 4 < 9: This statement signifies that 4 is less than 9. 20 < 25: Here, 20 is less than 25. The symbol "<" is used to represent "less than." When we talk about arranging numbers, we usually want to put them in a certain order so they make sense and are easier to work with. There are two common ways to do this: Ascending order and Descending order. Ascending order means you start with the smallest number and go up to the largest number. On the other hand, Descending order is the opposite. You start with the largest number and go down to the smallest number. In this blog, you will learn in detail what ascending and descending order mean, why they are important, and how to use them effectively in different scenarios. Ascending Order refers to the statement saying "moving upwards". Ascending order means the increase in the order of the numbers. There are many ways regarding how we describe ascending order. Like the alphabet A to Z is in ascending order, also dates when arranged in chronological order, from earliest to latest, become the best example of the ascending order. You can explore more examples of the ascending order. Ascending order refers to arranging things from smallest to largest. Here are some examples of the same: Numbers: The most common example is arranging numbers from smallest to biggest. For instance, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 is in ascending order. Heights: You can arrange people according to their height, starting from the shortest to the tallest. Sizes: You can arrange objects based on their size, from smallest to biggest. Ascending order, also sometimes called increasing order, is all about arranging things from smallest to largest. The symbol we use to show this order is the less than sign "<". For example, 5 < 10 < 15 < 20 < 25. The symbol "<" is always larger than the one on the right. There is a lot of difference in the Ascending and the Descending order of the numbers. Ascending order means the increase in the order of the numbers. Whereas, Descending order means arranging the items in decreasing order, i.e. from largest to smallest. Descending order means "moving downwards". Also, there is a difference between the symbols of the Ascending and Descending Order. Descending order is represented by the symbol ">". On the other hand, the Ascending order is represented by the symbol "<". For example, 5 > 4 > 3 > 2 > 1. When a number is dropping from the largest to the smallest number, it is the descending order. On the other hand when there is an upward order, i.e. the numbers are arranged in the increasing order, i.e. from the smallest to the largest, it is an ascending order. To get more clarity related to this concept, you can observe the given table. Here we will explain the concept with the help of a practice question. This will also help you to solve the questions in the exams related to the Ascending and Descending order. Definition Ascending Order: Ascending order means the increase in the order of the numbers, i.e. from smallest to largest. Descending Order: Descending order means arranging the items in decreasing order, i.e. from largest to smallest. Example Ascending Order Question: Arrange the following numbers in ascending order: -3, 8, 1, 0, 5. Here is how you need to solve this question. 1. Start by comparing the largest numbers to the smallest. In this case, we see 8 is the biggest and -3 is the smallest. 2. Write down the smallest number first: -3. Next, compare the remaining numbers and find the one that comes after -3 according to ascending order. Here, 0 is the next smallest number. 4. Write down 0 after -3. 5. Continue comparing the remaining numbers (1, 5, and 8) and placing them in ascending order after 0. Following these steps, the ascending order is: -3, 0, 1, 5, 8. Descending Order Question: Sarah has 4 cookies of different sizes. She wants to eat them from biggest to smallest so she saves the smallest for last. Which cookie should she eat first if their sizes are: Cookie A: 5 cm diameter, Cookie B: 3 cm diameter, Cookie C: 4 cm diameter, Cookie D: 2 cm diameter. Here is how you need to solve this question. Descending order means biggest to smallest. The biggest cookie will have the largest diameter. Compare the cookie diameters. Cookie A (5 cm) has the biggest diameter. Therefore, Sarah should eat Cookie A first. Practice Question Question: The school library is organizing a book fair! They have new books on various animals arriving throughout the week. Here's a list of the animals the books are about, along with the estimated delivery days: Monday: Lions Wednesday: Penguins Friday: Dolphins Help the librarian order the animal names on a display board according to when the books will arrive, from earliest to latest delivery. Question: The temperature outside dropped throughout the day. If the temperatures were recorded at these times: 8:00 AM: 25°C 10:00 AM: 20°C 12:00 PM: 18°C List the temperatures in descending order according to the time they were recorded. There are various stages where the application of the ascending and descending order comes into the picture. For example, we can use this concept to arrange the pencil colors, or books in a certain order of their height. Also, there can be other examples of this order, like reading time in the ascending order or reading calendar in the ascending order. RELATED POSTS What is the difference between descending and ascending dates? Dates in descending order mean arranging the dates from the earliest to the latest. On the other hand, dates when arranged in chronological order, from earliest to latest, become the best example of the ascending order. What is the descending order? Descending order means arranging the items in decreasing order, i.e. from largest to smallest. How do you remember the difference between ascending and descending? You can remember the difference between ascending and descending order, by thinking of an A in ascending like an arrow pointing upwards, and a D in descending standing for a downward direction. What is the descending order of 5 6 7 6 13 28 23 24? The descending order of 5 6 7 6 13 28 23 24 is 28, 24, 23, 13, 7, 6, 6, 5. This was all about the "difference between ascending and descending". For more such informative blogs, check out our Study Material Section, you can learn more about us by visiting our Indian exams page.