

4. Exploring Decimals

Remember

◆ You can write the fraction as a decimal using a symbol, the decimal point.

$\frac{3}{10}$ is the same as 0.3. We say 0.3 as "zero and three-tenths."

Since $\frac{3}{10}$, or 0.3, is less than 1 whole, we write 0 before the decimal point to show there is no whole number part.

◆ You can also use a place-value chart to show a decimal.

The decimal point is between the units place and the tenths place.

Units	•	Tenths
0	•	3

Look and learn

◆ Tenth: one part in 10 equal parts or $1 \div 10$.

◆ Hundredth: one part in 100 equal parts, or $1 \div 100$.

◆ Place value holder: use of zero to hold other digits in position to show the correct size of a number. For example, in 0.4 the '0' acts as a placeholder for the units.

T	U	.	tenths	hundredth
0	.	4		

Write each fraction as a decimal.

a) $\frac{7}{10}$

b) $\frac{2}{10}$

c) $\frac{8}{10}$

Write each decimal as a fraction.

a) 0.2 b) 0.9 c) 0.8 d) 0.7 e) 0.1 f) 0.4

Write the correct sign $>$ or $<$ between each pair of numbers.

a) 3.4  3.04 b) 4.5  4 c) 3.8  3.3 d) 1.1  1.2