

## Answers for Mental Subtraction Worksheet

It is important to note that these suggested answers are just one of the many possible strategies that children may use.

- $300 - 10 = 290$   
Possible strategy: renaming  
Rename 300 to 30 tens and 10 to 1 ten. 1 ten less than 30 tens is 29 tens. 29 tens is equal to 290.
- $90 - 18 = 72$   
Possible strategy: subtraction in stages  
 $90 - 10 = 80$   
 $80 - 8 = 72$
- $35 - 6 = 29$   
Possible strategy: subtraction in stages  
 $35 - 5 = 30$   
 $30 - 1 = 29$
- $92 - 58 = 34$   
Possible strategy: equal addition to change 58 to 60  
 $92 - 58$   
 $= (92 + 2) - (58 + 2)$   
 $= 94 - 60$   
 $= 34$
- $100 - 42 = 58$   
Possible strategy: complementary addition  
Firstly, 8 is added to 42 to give 50. Then another 50 is added to give 100. This is a total of 52 added to 42 to give 100.

6.  $200 - 101 = 99$   
Possible strategy: subtraction in stages  
 $200 - 100 = 100$   
 $100 - 1 = 99$

For the following questions 7, 8 and 9, discuss the questions together and note the differences between each.

7.  $444 - 102 = 342$   
Possible strategy: subtraction in stages  
 $444 - 100 = 344$   
 $344 - 2 = 342$

8.  $555 - 99 = 456$   
Possible strategy: rounding  
 $555 - 100 + 1$   
 $= 455 + 1$   
 $= 456$

9.  $666 - 97 = 569$   
Possible strategy: rounding  
 $666 - 100 + 3$   
 $= 566 + 3$   
 $= 569$

10.  $3681 - 600 = 3081$   
Possible strategy: renaming  
Rename 3681 to 36 hundreds and 81 ones. 36 hundreds subtract 6 hundreds gives 30 hundreds. Therefore the answer is 30 hundreds and 81 ones or 3081.

11.  $33 - 18 = 15$   
Possible strategy: complementary addition  
Firstly, add 2 to 18 to give 20. Then add 10 to 20 to give 30. Finally add 3 to 30 to give 33. 2 + 10 + 3 has been added to 18 to give 33 therefore, the difference between the two amounts is \$15.
12.  $82 - 16 = 66$   
Possible strategy: subtraction in stages  
 $82 - 10 = 72$   
 $72 - 6 = 66$
13.  $67 - 19 = 48$   
Possible strategy: complementary addition  
Firstly, add 1 to 19 to give 20. Then add 40 to 20 to get to 60 and finally add a finally 7 to give 67. Altogether 48 has been added.
14.  $100 - 38 = 62$   
Possible strategy: rounding  
 $100 - 40 + 2$   
 $= 60 + 2$   
 $= 62$
15.  $7.45 - 1.95 = 5.50$   
Possible strategy: equal addition  
 $(\$7.45 + 5c) - (\$1.95 + 5c)$   
 $= \$7.50 - \$2$   
 $= \$5.50$

It is often the case that students will find mental computation easier when there is something to concrete (such as money) to visualize. Note that most students will do this question as a whole numbers question rather than as a decimal question.