

Subtracting a Larger Number from a Smaller Number

$-P$ is, by definition, that number which, when added to P , gives 0. For example, $5 + (-5) = 0$.

$P - Q$ is, by definition, $P + (-Q)$. If $P < Q$, and if $P < 0$, then we can use this definition directly to evaluate $P - Q$. For example, 3 is larger than -5 , so $-5 - 3 = -5 + (-3) = -8$.

It is a theorem that $P - Q = -(Q - P)$. This theorem is useful in evaluating $P - Q$ if $P < Q$ and $P \geq 0$. For example, $3 - 5 = -(5 - 3) = -2$.

#1. $-8 - 1 =$ _____

#2. $-4 - 3 =$ _____

#3. $-1 - 1 =$ _____

#4. $-2 - 2 =$ _____

#5. $0 - 9 =$ _____

#6. $8 - 11 =$ _____

#7. $2 - 3 =$ _____

#8. $15 - 17 =$ _____

#9. $4 - 9 =$ _____

#10. $13 - 20 =$ _____

#11. $1 - 8 =$ _____

#12. $2 - 22 =$ _____

#13. $25 - 29 =$ _____

#14. $32 - 35 =$ _____

#15. $31 - 39 =$ _____

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