

Mental Subtraction Strategies

Name: _____

Date: _____

Instructions: Use mental strategies to solve these subtraction problems. Show your thinking in the space provided.

Part A: Counting Back Strategy

Use counting back for small differences. Show your steps.

1. $87 - 4 =$ _____
Strategy: _____
2. $145 - 6 =$ _____
Strategy: _____
3. $234 - 5 =$ _____
Strategy: _____

Part B: Compensation Strategy

Round one number to make it easier, then adjust your answer.

4. $83 - 29 =$ _____
Strategy: _____
5. $156 - 48 =$ _____
Strategy: _____
6. $217 - 99 =$ _____
Strategy: _____

Part C: Jump Strategy (Breaking Apart)

Break the number being subtracted into easier parts.

7. $125 - 37 =$ _____
Strategy: _____
8. $182 - 54 =$ _____
Strategy: _____

Part D: Choose Your Own Strategy

Pick the best mental strategy for each problem.

9. $300 - 150 =$ _____

Strategy used: _____

10. $421 - 198 =$ _____

Strategy used: _____