Subtraction, minus, find the difference, take away, less than.

You should remember that there are different ways to do these calculations depending on the question:

1. Count back
2. Count on
3. Written subtraction
4. Mental strategy

You have to look at the question and decide.

Whichever strategy you choose you have to **know\*** the number bonds of all numbers up to 20. (\*or at least work them out quickly)

Example 5001 – 4997. The written method is not appropriate. By the time you have written it out, you could have counted up from 4997 to 5000 and then added 1 more mentally. Answer: 4. Use this strategy of **counting on** if the numbers are **close together**.

Likewise 6287 – 3781. Counting on or back would take a long time. The written method is more appropriate.

7 – 1 = 6

8 – 8 = 0

2 – 7 (can’t do) so exchange 1 thousand for 10 hundreds. Now we have 5 thousands and 12 hundreds.

12 – 7 = 5

5 – 2 = 3

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Th | H | T | 1s |  |
|   | 5~~6~~ | 12 | 8 | 7 |  |
| - | 3 | 7 | 8 | 1 |  |
| = | 2 | 5 | 0 | 6 |  |

If the numbers are **far apart**, you could use **counting back** as the strategy.

Example: 2006 – 8 Count back 6 and then 2 more. Answer 1998 Again, written method is not the most appropriate.

Have a go at these. Think about the most appropriate strategy: count on, count back, written method. Write the answers on a separate sheet to the questions.

1. 5003 – 14 =
2. 6251 – 8 =
3. 4002 – 3995 =
4. 7165 – 7150 =
5. 6283 – 3172 =
6. 14,835 – 3,724
7. 6873 – 3658 =

Word challenges – still using these strategies.

1. What year was it 6 years before 1902?
2. What length is 8cm less than 302?
3. Bill has £672. Jill has £659. How much more has Bill got?
4. A car costs £5475. Sid puts down a deposit of £1859. How much more does he have to pay?
5. Len has run 7356m of a 10,000m race. How much further does he have to run?