

ADDING & SUBTRACTING ON THE NUMBER LINE

2

Name: Key Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

SECTION 2.2 SUBTRACTION OF INTEGERS

**Big Ideas:** How do we model subtraction on a number line?

In order to model subtraction on a number line, we use the **Four-Step Car Model** for subtraction.

**Step 1:** Place your car at the origin, 0, on the number line.

**Step 2:** Look at the sign on the first number. If the number is positive, point the car to the right, if the number is negative, point the car to the left. *Move the car forward by a distance equal to the absolute value of the first number.*

**Step 3:** Next, examine the sign on the second of the two numbers. If the number is positive, point the car to the right, if the number is negative, point the car to the left.

**Step 4:** Because you are subtracting, move the car backward, the distance equal to the absolute value of the second number

EXAMPLE 1

Compute the difference  $5 - 2$  using the Four-Step Car Model on the number line. Explain what you did in each step.



Step 1: *Place the car at 0*

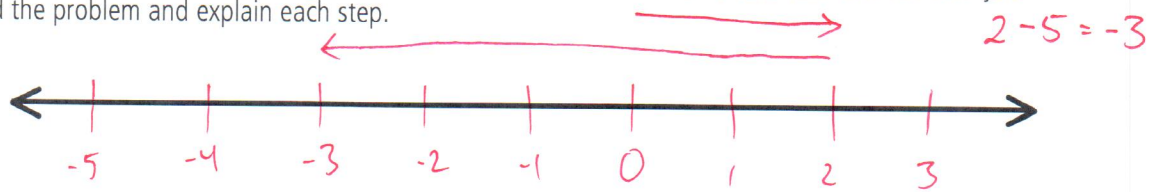
Step 2: *Face car to the right and move forward 5 units*

Step 3: *Face car to the right*

Step 4: *Drive backwards 2 units (to 3)*

**EXAMPLE 2**

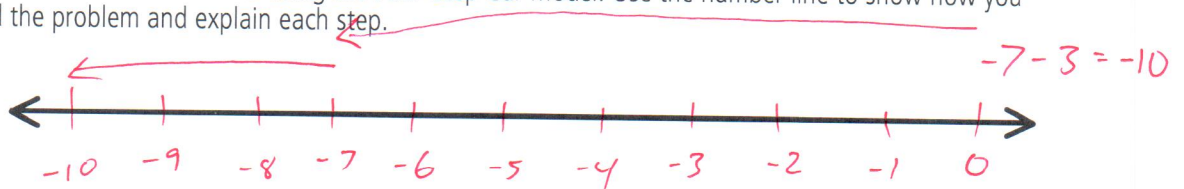
Compute the difference  $2 - 5$  using the Four-Step Car Model. Use the number line to show how you solved the problem and explain each step.



- Step 1: Place car at 0
- Step 2: Face car right and drive forward 2 units
- Step 3: Face car right
- Step 4: Drive backward 5 units (to -3)

**EXAMPLE 3**

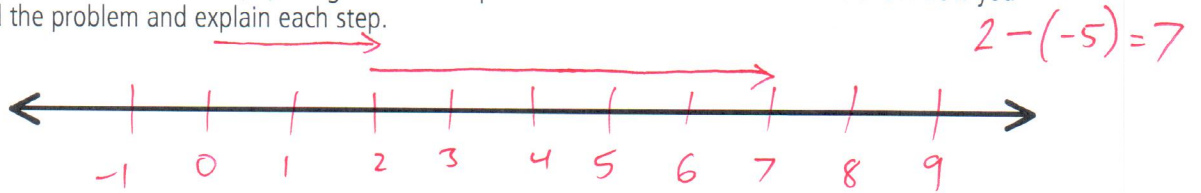
Compute the difference  $-7 - 3$  using the Four-Step Car Model. Use the number line to show how you solved the problem and explain each step.



- Step 1: Place car at 0.
- Step 2: Face car left and drive forward 7 units (to -7)
- Step 3: Face car right
- Step 4: Back up car 3 units (to -10)

**EXAMPLE 4**

Compute the difference  $2 - (-5)$  using the Four-Step Car Model. Use a number line to show how you solved the problem and explain each step.



Step 1: Place car at +0

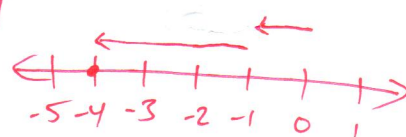
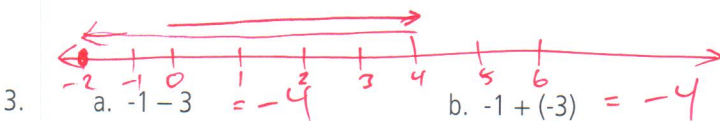
Step 2: Face car right and move forward 2 units

Step 3: Face car left

Step 4: Back up car 5 units (to 7)

**PRACTICE EXERCISES**

Use your number line to calculate each of the following exercises.

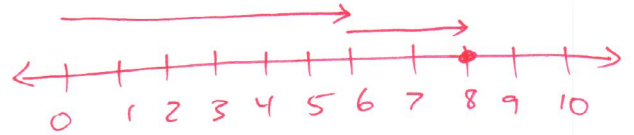


What patterns do you notice in the above problems?

Subtracting a positive is like adding its negative (opposite)

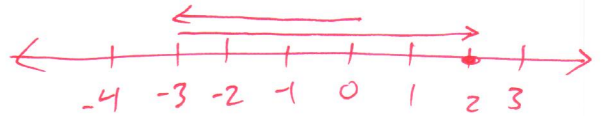
4. a.  $6 - (-2)$   
8

b.  $6 + 2$   
8



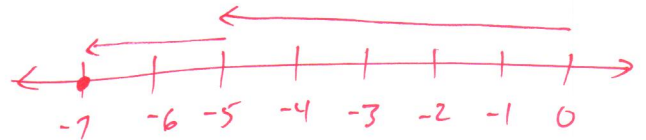
5. a.  $-3 - (-5)$   
2

b.  $-3 + 5$   
2



6. a.  $-5 - 2$   
-7

b.  $-5 + (-2)$   
-7

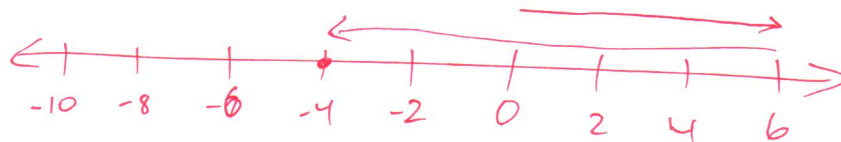


What patterns do you notice in the above problems?

Subtracting a negative is like adding its positive (opposite) pair

7. It was  $6^{\circ}\text{C}$  at 9:00 a.m. The temperature dropped  $10^{\circ}\text{C}$  over the next 4 hours. What was the temperature at 1:00 p.m.?

$6^{\circ}\text{C} - 10^{\circ}\text{C} = -4^{\circ}\text{C}$



**SUMMARY (What I learned today)**

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