# **Subtraction Using Number Line**

## **Understanding the Topic**

A number line is a line with numbers marked in order. We can use a number line to do subtraction by counting backward. Start at the first number and jump backward by the second number. The number you land on is the answer. Subtraction on the number line helps us see how much we take away step-by-step

#### How to Use Number Line for Subtraction

Step 1: Draw a number line with numbers in order

Step 2: Put your finger or marker on the starting number

Step 3: Move to the left (backward) the number of times you are subtracting

Step 4: The place where you stop is the answer

Examples with Solutions

#### Example 1:

**Subtract:** 8 – 3

Start at 8, move back 3 steps

 $8 \rightarrow 7 \rightarrow 6 \rightarrow 5$ 

Answer: 5

#### Example 2:

**Subtract:** 12 – 5

Start at 12, move back 5 steps

 $12 \rightarrow 11 \rightarrow 10 \rightarrow 9 \rightarrow 8 \rightarrow 7$ 

Answer: 7

# Example 3:

**Subtract:** 15 – 6

Start at 15, move back 6 steps

 $15 \rightarrow 14 \rightarrow 13 \rightarrow 12 \rightarrow 11 \rightarrow 10 \rightarrow 9$ 

Answer: 9

# Example 4:

**Subtract:** 20 – 9

Start at 20, move back 9 steps  $20 \rightarrow 19 \rightarrow 18 \rightarrow 17 \rightarrow 16 \rightarrow 15 \rightarrow 14 \rightarrow 13 \rightarrow 12 \rightarrow 11$ Answer: 11 Example 5: Subtract: 10 - 4Start at 10, move back 4 steps  $10 \rightarrow 9 \rightarrow 8 \rightarrow 7 \rightarrow 6$ Answer: 6

# **Summary Points**

- Subtraction on number line means moving backward
- Start at the first number, then count back the second number
- The number where you stop is your answer
- This method helps in visual learning of subtraction
- It is useful for solving small number subtraction easily