Finding the Missing Minuend or Subtrahend

Minuend and Subtrahend

In subtraction, the minuend is the number from which another number is subtracted The subtrahend is the number that is being subtracted The result is called the difference

Example: In 85 – 27 = 58

85 is the minuend

27 is the subtrahend

58 is the difference

Finding the Missing Minuend

If the subtrahend and difference are known Minuend = Subtrahend + Difference

Finding the Missing Subtrahend

If the minuend and difference are known Subtrahend = Minuend – Difference

Properties Used

Subtraction is the reverse of addition If a – b = c, then a = b + c and b = a – c Subtracting 0 keeps the number the same Subtracting a number from itself gives 0 **Example 1:** Question: Find the missing minuend: ____ – 246 = 389 Solution: Use the rule: Minuend = Subtrahend + Difference Minuend = 246 + 389 = 635

Answer: The missing minuend is 635

Example 2:

Question: Find the missing subtrahend: $\frac{5}{6} - \underline{\qquad} = \frac{2}{6}$

Solution:

Use the rule: Subtrahend = Minuend – Difference

Subtrahend = $\frac{5}{6} - \frac{2}{6} = \frac{3}{6}$

Answer: The missing subtrahend is $\frac{3}{6}$

Summary Points

- Minuend is the number from which we subtract
- Subtrahend is the number that is subtracted
- To find the missing minuend, add the subtrahend and difference
- To find the missing subtrahend, subtract the difference from the minuend
- This works for both whole numbers and like fractions