

PA4-5: Decreasing Sequences

In a **decreasing sequence**, each number is one less than the one before it.

What number is 3 less than 9? (Or: What is $9 - 3$?)

Keitha finds the answer by counting on her fingers. She says 9 with her fist closed and counts backwards until she has raised 3 fingers:



The number 6 is 3 **less than** 9.

1. Subtract the number in the circle from the number beside it. Write your answer in the blank.

a) $3 \text{ } \textcircled{-2}$ _____ b) $12 \text{ } \textcircled{-3}$ _____ c) $8 \text{ } \textcircled{-4}$ _____ d) $9 \text{ } \textcircled{-1}$ _____

e) $8 \text{ } \textcircled{-5}$ _____ f) $10 \text{ } \textcircled{-4}$ _____ g) $5 \text{ } \textcircled{-1}$ _____ h) $9 \text{ } \textcircled{-2}$ _____

BONUS:

i) $28 \text{ } \textcircled{-4}$ _____ j) $35 \text{ } \textcircled{-6}$ _____ k) $57 \text{ } \textcircled{-8}$ _____ l) $62 \text{ } \textcircled{-4}$ _____

2. Fill in the missing numbers.

- a) _____ is 4 less than 7 b) _____ is 2 less than 9 c) _____ is 3 less than 8
 d) _____ is 5 less than 17 e) _____ is 4 less than 20 f) _____ is 6 less than 25
 g) _____ is 7 less than 28 h) _____ is 4 less than 32 i) _____ is 5 less than 40

3. Extend the following decreasing patterns.

Example: $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$
 11 , 9 , 7 , _____ , _____ , _____

Step 1: $\textcircled{-2}$ $\textcircled{-2}$ $\textcircled{-2}$ $\textcircled{-2}$ $\textcircled{-2}$
 11 , 9 , 7 , _____ , _____ , _____

Step 2: $\textcircled{-2}$ $\textcircled{-2}$ $\textcircled{-2}$ $\textcircled{-2}$ $\textcircled{-2}$
 11 , 9 , 7 , 5 , 3 , 1

a) $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$
 10 , 9 , 8 , _____ , _____ , _____

b) $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$
 14 , 12 , 10 , _____ , _____ , _____

c) $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$
 23 , 22 , 21 , _____ , _____ , _____

d) $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$
 24 , 21 , 18 , _____ , _____ , _____

e) $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$
 90 , 80 , 70 , _____ , _____ , _____

f) $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$ $\textcircled{}$
 45 , 40 , 35 , _____ , _____ , _____