In a decreasing sequence, each number is less than the one before it.
What number is 3 less than 9 ? (Or: $9-3=$ ?) Jenna 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: $\quad \mathbf{9 - 3}=\mathbf{6}$

1. Follow the directions to the circle from the number given. Write your answer in the blank:
a) $7-3$
b) $13-3$
c) 9
-4
d) 17

- -1

e) $16^{-5}$
$\qquad$
f) 19
-4
$\qquad$
g) 25
-     - 

$\qquad$

- 6
j) 45
$\qquad$
k) 63
-8
$\qquad$ h) 29
- -2
-4
i) 38 $\qquad$
$\qquad$
I) 72
-4
$\qquad$

2. Fill in the missing numbers:
a) $\qquad$ is 5 less than 17
b) $\qquad$ is 3 less than 19
c) $\qquad$ is 2 less than 18
d) $\qquad$ is 6 less than 26
e) $\qquad$ is 8 less than 20
f) $\qquad$ is 4 less than 29
g) $\qquad$ is 7 less than 35
h) $\qquad$ is 9 less than 42
i) $\qquad$ is 8 less than 90
3. Extend the following decreasing patterns by first finding the gap between the numbers.

a) $13,11,9$


, ,
b)


23

,

$\qquad$ , $\qquad$
c) 64

61 , 58 $\qquad$ $\bigcirc$
 , - , $\qquad$

Step 1:



