

Shifty Subtraction

You need: a calculator

ACTIVITY ONE

- Calista used her calculator to subtract a number from 17. She finished with an answer of -3 . What number did she subtract?
- What other numbers might she have used to get an answer of -3 ?
 $\square - \square = -3$
- What numbers might Calista use to get -5 in the window?
 $\square - \square = -5$

ACTIVITY TWO

Lefu has just played marbles with David.

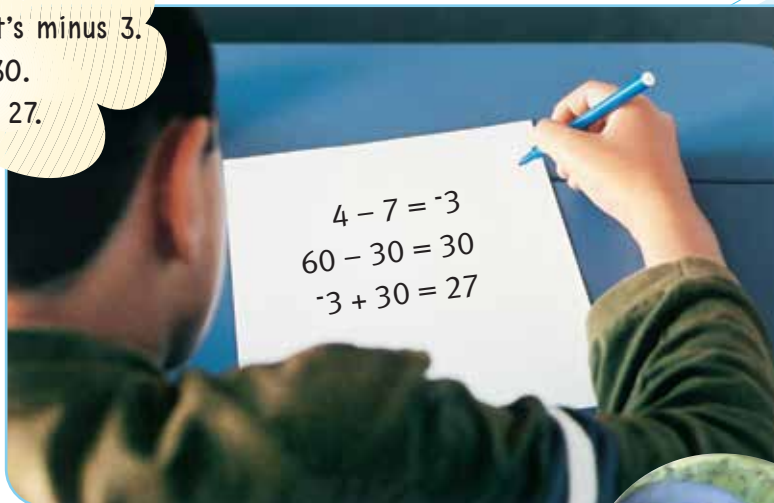


I had 64 marbles, but I lost 37 of them to David. How many have I got left?

Lefu has a clever strategy for subtracting numbers. He thinks:

4 take away 7 ... that's minus 3.
 $60 - 30$ is 30.
30 minus 3 is 27.

He wrote it as:



How could Lefu's strategy be used to work out these expressions?

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| a. $85 - 46$ | b. $105 - 67$ |
| c. $482 - 268$ | d. $590 - 468$ |
| e. $247 - 164$ | f. $819 - 463$ |