

Making Sense of Subtracting Quantities in Brackets

Question: $(4 + 8) - (2 + 3)$ Answer: _____

Question: When we take away the brackets after the subtraction sign, which is true?

$(4 + 8) - 2 + 3$ Answer: T F

$(4 + 8) - 2 - 3$ Answer: T F

Question: $(9 + 5) - (6 - 1)$ Answer: _____

When we take away the brackets after the subtraction sign, which is true?

$(9 + 5) - 6 - 1$ Answer: T F

$(9 + 5) - 6 + 1$ Answer: T F

Question: $(10 + 5) - (-2 + 3)$ Answer: _____

When we take away the brackets after the subtraction sign, which is true?

$(10 + 5) - 2 + 3$ Answer: T F

$(10 + 5) + 2 + 3$ Answer: T F

$(10 + 5) + 2 - 3$ Answer: T F

Question: $(2 + 11) - (-4 - 6)$ Answer: _____

When we take away the brackets after the subtraction sign, which is true?

$$(2 + 11) + 4 + 6 \quad \text{Answer:} \quad \text{T} \quad \text{F}$$

$$(2 + 11) - 4 - 6 \quad \text{Answer:} \quad \text{T} \quad \text{F}$$

$$(2 + 11) + 4 - 6 \quad \text{Answer:} \quad \text{T} \quad \text{F}$$

How Do We Make Sense Of All Of This?

WE MUST SUBTRACT EVERYTHING IN THE BRACKETS.

It is not an issue when we only have numbers in the brackets. We can easily find the values in each set of brackets first and then subtract. But, in algebra, we have terms with numbers and letters, so we must follow the appropriate rules because we can't find a single value in the bracket.

1. $(2x + 4) - (x + 1)$ Answer: _____
2. $(9v + 7) - (4v + 5)$ Answer: _____
3. $(15n + 12) - (7n + 3)$ Answer: _____
4. $(6y + 3) - (-y - 4)$ Answer: _____
5. $(5k + 16) - (-7k - 2)$ Answer: _____
6. $(10x - 2) - (7x - 4)$ Answer: _____
7. $(-4v - 1) - (v + 3)$ Answer: _____
8. $(-8m - 2) - (-7m + 3)$ Answer: _____
9. $(-x + 1) - (-x - 4)$ Answer: _____
10. $(2k + 5) - (k + 2)$ Answer: _____
11. $12v - (8v + 4)$ Answer: _____
12. $25b - (13b - 7)$ Answer: _____
13. $60h - (-30h + 1)$ Answer: _____
14. $6j - (-j - 9)$ Answer: _____
15. $5m - (8m + 10)$ Answer: _____

Making Sense of Subtracting Quantities in Brackets **Answers**

Question: $(4 + 8) - (2 + 3)$ Answer: $12 - 5 = 7$

Question: When we take away the brackets after the subtraction sign, which is true?

$(4 + 8) - 2 + 3$ Answer: T F

$(4 + 8) - 2 - 3$ Answer: T F

Question: $(9 + 5) - (6 - 1)$ Answer: $14 - 5 = 9$

When we take away the brackets after the subtraction sign, which is true?

$(9 + 5) - 6 - 1$ Answer: T F

$(9 + 5) - 6 + 1$ Answer: T F

Question: $(10 + 5) - (-2 + 3)$ Answer: $15 - 1 = 14$

When we take away the brackets after the subtraction sign, which is true?

$(10 + 5) - 2 + 3$ Answer: T F

$(10 + 5) + 2 + 3$ Answer: T F

$(10 + 5) + 2 - 3$ Answer: T F

Question: $(2 + 11) - (-4 - 6)$ Answer: $13 - (-10) = 23$

When we take away the brackets after the subtraction sign, which is true?

$$(2 + 11) + 4 + 6 \quad \text{Answer:} \quad T \quad F$$

$$(2 + 11) - 4 - 6 \quad \text{Answer:} \quad T \quad F$$

$$(2 + 11) + 4 - 6 \quad \text{Answer:} \quad T \quad F$$

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WE MUST SUBTRACT EVERYTHING IN THE BRACKETS.

It is not an issue when we only have numbers in the brackets. We can easily find the values in each set of brackets first and then subtract. But, in algebra, we have terms with numbers and letters, so we must follow the appropriate rules because we can't find a single value in the bracket.

1. $(2x + 4) - (x + 1)$ Answer: $x + 3$
2. $(9v + 7) - (4v + 5)$ Answer: $5v + 2$
3. $(15n + 12) - (7n + 3)$ Answer: $8n + 9$
4. $(6y + 3) - (-y - 4)$ Answer: $7y + 7$
5. $(5k + 16) - (-7k - 2)$ Answer: $12k + 18$
6. $(10x - 2) - (7x - 4)$ Answer: $3x + 2$
7. $(-4v - 1) - (v + 3)$ Answer: $-5v - 4$
8. $(-8m - 2) - (-7m + 3)$ Answer: $-m - 5$
9. $(-x + 1) - (-x - 4)$ Answer: 5
10. $(2k + 5) - (k + 2)$ Answer: $k + 3$
11. $12v - (8v + 4)$ Answer: $4v - 4$
12. $25b - (13b - 7)$ Answer: $12b + 7$
13. $60h - (-30h + 1)$ Answer: $90h - 1$
14. $6j - (-j - 9)$ Answer: $7j + 9$
15. $5m - (8m + 10)$ Answer: $-3m - 10$