Subtracting decimals with the same number of decimal places

1 Use a place value chart and counters to help you complete the subtractions.

Tens	Ones	Tenths	Hundredths
10	1 1 1 1	0.1 0.1 0.1 0.1 0.1 0.1 0.1 0.1	0.01 0.01 0.01

a) 14.83 – 12.12 = ☐

b) 14.83 – 12.14 = ☐

c) 14.83 – 12.92 = ☐

d) 14.83 – 12.94 = ☐

e) Which calculation was easier? Talk about it with a partner.

f) What happens when you don't have enough counters in a column to take away?

_____

_____

2 Complete the sentences.

1 ten can be exchanged for ☐ ones.

1 one can be exchanged for ☐ tenths.

1 tenth can be exchanged for 10 _____.

3 Annie is calculating 2.42 – 1.17 using the column method.

She uses a place value chart to help her.

Ones	Tenths	Hundredths
1 1	0.1 0.1 0.1 ~~0.1~~	0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01

	2	•	³~~4~~	¹2
–	1	•	1	7
	1	•	2	5

How does the place value chart support the column method?

Talk about it with a partner.

4 Complete the column subtractions.

a)

		5	• 6	4	
	–	3	• 1	2	
			•		

b)

		5	• 6	4	
	–	3	• 1	5	
			•		

c)

		8	• 0	9	
	–	3	• 8	1	
			•		

d)

		1	2	• 0	2	
	–	1	1	• 3	8	
				•		

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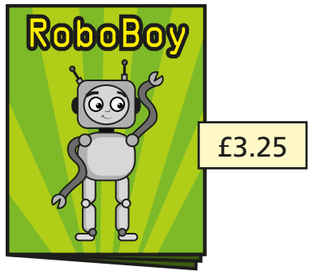
5 Whitney has £8.52

She buys this comic.

How much money does she have left?



£ ☐

6 Here are some items for sale in a shop.

a) How much more does a scarf cost than a bag of marbles?

£ ☐

b) Esther has £15.31

She buys a pair of headphones and a bag of marbles.

How much money does she have left?

£ ☐

c) Tom has £7.01

He buys one item and has £5.92 left.

What did he buy?

Tom bought _____.

7 Ron and Dora are doing a sponsored walk.

Ron walks 3.12 miles.

Dora walks 5.49 miles.

How much further does Dora walk than Ron?

Dora walks ☐ miles further than Ron.

8 Tommy has three pieces of string.

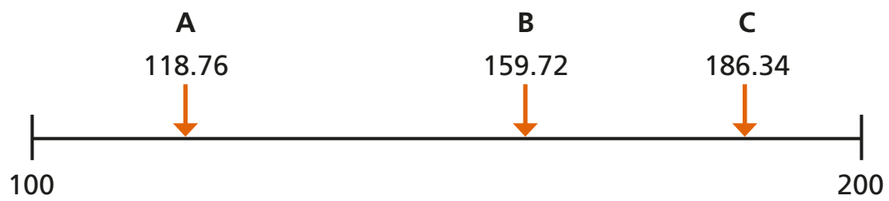
- The first piece is 0.78 m long.
- The second piece is 0.24 m shorter than the first piece.
- The third piece is 0.07 m shorter than the second piece.

What is the total length of all three pieces of string?

Give your answer in metres and centimetres.

☐ m and ☐ cm

9 A, B and C are points on a number line.



How much greater is the difference between A and C than the difference between B and C?

☐

Compare methods with a partner.

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