

# Mental Subtraction Strategies

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Strategy 1: Compensation (Adding to Make it Easier)

*Add the same amount to both numbers to make an easier subtraction.*

**Example:**  $82 - 39 = ? \rightarrow$  Think:  $83 - 40 = 43$

1.  $74 - 29 =$  \_\_\_\_\_

2.  $156 - 48 =$  \_\_\_\_\_

3.  $93 - 57 =$  \_\_\_\_\_

4.  $215 - 89 =$  \_\_\_\_\_

## Strategy 2: Partitioning (Breaking Apart the Number)

*Break the number you're subtracting into parts (tens and ones).*

**Example:**  $85 - 34 = ? \rightarrow$  Think:  $85 - 30 = 55$ , then  $55 - 4 = 51$

5.  $67 - 23 =$  \_\_\_\_\_

6.  $142 - 56 =$  \_\_\_\_\_

7.  $98 - 45 =$  \_\_\_\_\_

8.  $184 - 72 =$  \_\_\_\_\_

## Strategy 3: Your Choice!

*Choose the best mental strategy for each problem.*

9.  $125 - 68 =$  \_\_\_\_\_

10.  $91 - 38 =$  \_\_\_\_\_

11.  $176 - 54 =$  \_\_\_\_\_

12.  $104 - 79 =$  \_\_\_\_\_

13.  $230 - 95 =$  \_\_\_\_\_

14.  $87 - 42 =$  \_\_\_\_\_

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## Challenge Problems

15.  $512 - 298 =$  \_\_\_\_\_

$16. 405 - 187 =$

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