

Add and subtract like fractions

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Use the explanations to discuss the idea. A worked answer is one example; equivalent answers may also be valid.

1. Find $5/8 - 4/8$.

$1/8$

$$5/8 - 4/8 = 5/8 - 4/8 = 1/8.$$

$5/8$



$4/8$



2. Find $96/100 - 1/100$.

$19/20$

$$96/100 - 1/100 = 96/100 - 1/100 = 19/20.$$

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3. Find $\frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{4}$.

1

$$\frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = 1.$$

4. Find $\frac{2}{5} - \frac{1}{5}$. Which reason would help you solve this correctly?

The pieces have the same size. Subtract their counts and keep denominator 5.

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5. A jug holds $\frac{3}{4}$ liters. You pour out $\frac{1}{4}$ liters. How many liters remain?

$\frac{1}{2}$

$\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$. The answer is in liters.

6. A path has a $\frac{1}{12}$ -meter section followed by a $\frac{4}{12}$ -meter section. How many meters long is the path?

$\frac{5}{12}$

$\frac{1}{12} + \frac{4}{12} = \frac{1}{12} + \frac{4}{12} = \frac{5}{12}$. The answer is in meters.

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7. Write $139/100$ as a sum of two positive fractions with denominator 100.

$1/100 + 138/100$ (other positive sums with denominator 100 are valid)

One possible sum is $1/100 + 138/100$. Any two positive numerators totaling 139, each over 100, work; either order is valid.

8. Write $9/12$ as a sum of two positive fractions with denominator 12.

$1/12 + 8/12$ (other positive sums with denominator 12 are valid)

One possible sum is $1/12 + 8/12$. Any two positive numerators totaling 9, each over 12, work; either order is valid.