Adding and Subtracting Decimals

Adding and Subtracting Decimals: Find, Fix, and Work Backward

Name _____ **Date** _____ **Score** _____ / 8

QUICK REVIEW

Align decimal points so like units combine. Add zeros if needed. For $4.7 - 1.86$, write $4.70 - 1.86 = 2.84$; regroup a whole as 10 tenths when needed. Check with $2.84 + 1.86 = 4.70$.

Worked example

Calculate $5.6 + 0.8$. Show the place-value or fraction calculation.

1. Align places: $5.6 = 560 \div 100$ and $0.8 = 80 \div 100$.
2. Combine hundredths: $560 + 80 = 640$.
3. $640 \div 100 = 6.4$; check $6.4 - 0.8 = 5.6$.
Answer: 6.4.

Practice Problems

Show your thinking.

1. A student writes $3.77 + 2.86 = 6.73$. Correct the result and check it.

2. Find the missing number: $\square - 2.86 = 2.47$. Check by substitution.

3. Find the missing number: $12.95 + \square = 17.73$. Check by substitution.

4. A recorded result for $7.36 - 0.89$ is 6.57. By exactly how much, and in which direction, must that record change? Give the repaired equation.

5. Complete the two-output table for the rule: input $+3.67$. Inputs are 8.86 and 17.72. Compare the outputs.

Input	Output
8.86	
17.72	

6. Is $6.61 - 2.47$ greater than, less than, or equal to 4.39? Find the exact gap.

7. Find the missing number: $\square + 0.86 = 8.21$. Check by substitution.

8. Find the missing number: $15.5 - \square = 7.57$. Check by substitution.

Answer Key

1. 6.63, not 6.73.
2. 5.33.
3. 4.78.
4. Decrease by 0.1; $7.36 - 0.89 = 6.47$.
5. Outputs 12.53 and 21.39; second minus first is 8.86.
6. Less than by 0.25.
7. 7.35.
8. 7.93.

Step-by-Step Solutions

Follow each calculation, then check your own work.

Problem 1

1. Align places: $3.77 = 377 \div 100$ and $2.86 = 286 \div 100$.
2. Combine hundredths: $377 + 286 = 663$.
3. $663 \div 100 = 6.63$; check $6.63 - 2.86 = 3.77$.
4. The claimed value differs by 0.1, so it fails the exact calculation.

Problem 2

1. Undo the known operation to find the missing value: $2.47 + 2.86 = 5.33$.
2. Align places: $5.33 = 533 \div 100$ and $2.86 = 286 \div 100$.
3. Combine hundredths: $533 - 286 = 247$.
4. $247 \div 100 = 2.47$; check $2.47 + 2.86 = 5.33$.

Problem 3

1. Undo the known operation to find the missing value: $17.73 - 12.95 = 4.78$.
2. Align places: $12.95 = 1295 \div 100$ and $4.78 = 478 \div 100$.
3. Combine hundredths: $1295 + 478 = 1773$.
4. $1773 \div 100 = 17.73$; check $17.73 - 4.78 = 12.95$.

Problem 4

1. Align places: $7.36 = 736 \div 100$ and $0.89 = 89 \div 100$.
2. Combine hundredths: $736 - 89 = 647$.
3. $647 \div 100 = 6.47$; check $6.47 + 0.89 = 7.36$.
4. The correction is $6.57 - 6.47 = 0.1$, so subtract that amount from the record.

Problem 5

1. Align places: $8.86 = 886 \div 100$ and $3.67 = 367 \div 100$.
2. Combine hundredths: $886 + 367 = 1253$.
3. $1253 \div 100 = 12.53$; check $12.53 - 3.67 = 8.86$.
4. Second output: $17.72 + 3.67 = 21.39$; difference $21.39 - 12.53 = 8.86$.

Problem 6

1. Align places: $6.61 = 661 \div 100$ and $2.47 = 247 \div 100$.
2. Combine hundredths: $661 - 247 = 414$.
3. $414 \div 100 = 4.14$; check $4.14 + 2.47 = 6.61$.
4. $4.39 - 4.14 = 0.25$, so the expression is smaller.

Problem 7

1. Undo the known operation to find the missing value: $8.21 - 0.86 = 7.35$.
2. Align places: $7.35 = 735 \div 100$ and $0.86 = 86 \div 100$.
3. Combine hundredths: $735 + 86 = 821$.
4. $821 \div 100 = 8.21$; check $8.21 - 0.86 = 7.35$.

Problem 8

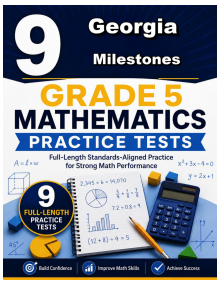
1. Undo the known operation to find the missing value: $15.5 - 7.57 = 7.93$.
2. Align places: $15.5 = 1550 \div 100$ and $7.93 = 793 \div 100$.
3. Combine hundredths: $1550 - 793 = 757$.
4. $757 \div 100 = 7.57$; check $7.57 + 7.93 = 15.5$.

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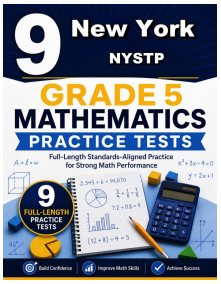
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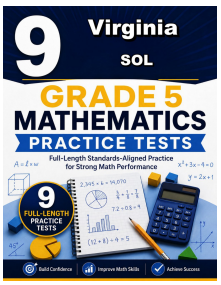
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