

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

# Subtracting Fractions

with Unlike Denominators

**Step 1:** Find equivalent fractions and rewrite the problem so that the denominators are the same.

example:  $\frac{1}{4} = \frac{2}{8}$   
 $\frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{8}$

**Step 2:** Subtract the numerators and use the same denominators in your answer.

**Step 3:** Simplify if possible.

a.  $\frac{4}{8}$   
 $-\frac{1}{4}$   
-----

b.  $\frac{7}{12}$   
 $-\frac{3}{6}$   
-----

c.  $\frac{1}{2}$   
 $-\frac{1}{6}$   
-----

d.  $\frac{9}{10}$   
 $-\frac{1}{2}$   
-----

e.  $\frac{4}{6}$   
 $-\frac{1}{3}$   
-----

f.  $\frac{7}{10}$   
 $-\frac{2}{5}$   
-----

g.  $\frac{5}{12}$   
 $-\frac{1}{6}$   
-----

h.  $\frac{1}{2}$   
 $-\frac{1}{3}$   
-----

i.  $\frac{1}{2}$   
 $-\frac{1}{4}$   
-----

j.  $\frac{5}{8}$   
 $-\frac{2}{4}$   
-----

k.  $\frac{9}{10}$   
 $-\frac{2}{5}$   
-----

l.  $\frac{5}{6}$   
 $-\frac{2}{3}$   
-----

# ANSWER KEY

## Subtracting Fractions

with Unlike Denominators

**Step 1:** Find equivalent fractions and rewrite the problem so that the denominators are the same.

example:  $\frac{1}{4} = \frac{2}{8}$

**Step 2:** Subtract the numerators and use the same denominators in your answer.

$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{1}{4} \\ - \frac{1}{8} \\ \hline \frac{1}{8} \end{array}$$

**Step 3:** Simplify if possible.

a. 
$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{4}{8} \\ - \frac{1}{4} \\ \hline \frac{2}{8} = \frac{1}{4} \end{array}$$

b. 
$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{7}{12} \\ - \frac{3}{6} \\ \hline \frac{1}{12} \end{array}$$

c. 
$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{1}{2} \\ - \frac{1}{6} \\ \hline \frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{3} \end{array}$$

d. 
$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{9}{10} \\ - \frac{1}{2} \\ \hline \frac{4}{10} = \frac{2}{5} \end{array}$$

e. 
$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{4}{6} \\ - \frac{1}{3} \\ \hline \frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{3} \end{array}$$

f. 
$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{7}{10} \\ - \frac{2}{5} \\ \hline \frac{3}{10} \end{array}$$

g. 
$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{5}{12} \\ - \frac{1}{6} \\ \hline \frac{3}{12} = \frac{1}{4} \end{array}$$

h. 
$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{1}{2} \\ - \frac{1}{3} \\ \hline \frac{1}{6} \end{array}$$

i. 
$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{1}{2} \\ - \frac{1}{4} \\ \hline \frac{1}{4} \end{array}$$

j. 
$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{5}{8} \\ - \frac{2}{4} \\ \hline \frac{1}{8} \end{array}$$

k. 
$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{9}{10} \\ - \frac{2}{5} \\ \hline \frac{5}{10} = \frac{1}{2} \end{array}$$

l. 
$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{5}{6} \\ - \frac{2}{3} \\ \hline \frac{1}{6} \end{array}$$