

Helping your child with Maths:

SUBTRACTION



Stage 3: Partitioning (Expanded Column Method)

$$457 - 226 = 231$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 400 + 50 + 7 \\ 200 + 20 + 6 \\ \hline 200 + 30 + 1 \\ = 231 \end{array}$$

$$425 - 143$$

Hundreds	Tens	Units
3 400	120	5
-100	40	3
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200	+ 80	+ 2 = 282

Children partition numbers and use the column method to subtract. It is important that the layout of the calculation is correct to ensure accuracy. They will move on to 'exchanging'.

Stage 4: Compact Column Method

T	U
9	8
1	7
8	1

$$\begin{array}{r} 6\cancel{7}12 \\ 56 \\ \hline 16 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 45.6 \\ - 12.4 \\ \hline 33.2 \end{array}$$

Children continue to use the column layout for their subtraction calculations. However, they no longer partition the numbers first. They use their prior knowledge of partitioning and place value to subtract the digits within the calculation. Children should estimate their answer first to be able to check their work, e.g. $99 - 62$ can be rounded to $100 - 60 = 40$. Therefore, the children know their answer should be close to 40.