

# Subtraction chains

mental methods for subtraction



Copy the number chain, writing the start number at the beginning. Try to work out all the calculations mentally. Repeat for all five start numbers.

Start numbers:

- a 320    b 350    c 480    d 410    e 440



Start numbers:

- a 740    b 770    c 810    d 850    e 920



Start numbers:

- a 1050    b 1140    c 1200    d 1250    e 1300



# Written subtraction (I)



- Subtract numbers with up to 4 digits using the formal written method of columnar subtraction
- Estimate and use inverse operations to check answers to a calculation

Challenge 1

- a  $574 - 251$     b  $675 - 432$     c  $682 - 356$     d  $574 - 248$   
 e  $636 - 318$     f  $754 - 329$     g  $766 - 548$     h  $827 - 419$

Challenge 2

1 Write an estimate for these calculations before you work them out.

- a  $763 - 381$     b  $873 - 458$     c  $839 - 273$     d  $775 - 448$   
 e  $853 - 476$     f  $865 - 479$     g  $872 - 695$     h  $841 - 764$

2 Choose four of your calculations and check your answers using the inverse operation.

Challenge 3

1 Write an estimate for these calculations before you work them out.

- a  $953 - 488$     b  $926 - 549$     c  $910 - 642$     d  $1267 - 1159$   
 e  $1358 - 1126$     f  $1326 - 1153$     g  $1462 - 1274$     h  $1514 - 1236$

2 Choose four of your calculations and check your answers using the inverse operation.

