

Year 3/4 Expanded Column method for Subtraction

① Partition each number

$$\begin{array}{r} 386 \rightarrow 300 + 80 + 6 \\ - 128 \rightarrow 100 + 20 + 8 \\ \hline 258 \leftarrow 200 + 50 + 8 \end{array}$$

④ Recombine the units, tens and hundreds to find your answer

|||||* 1.....
80 and 6
Changes to
70 and 16

② Starting in the units column, take the bottom number from the top number.

③ If the top number is smaller than the bottom number then take some from the next column along (in this example take a ten from 80)

Use diennes to show this if you need to - we call this 'exchanging'.

Another example:

$$\begin{array}{r} 424 \rightarrow 400 + 20 + 4 \\ - 181 \rightarrow 100 + 80 + 1 \\ \hline 243 \leftarrow 200 + 40 + 3 \end{array}$$

□□□* □11.....

In this example I moved a 100 to the tens column.
400 and 20 changes to 300 and 120

Even trickier!

$$\begin{array}{r} 904 \rightarrow 900 + 00 + 4 \\ - 96 \rightarrow 000 + 90 + 6 \\ \hline 808 \leftarrow 800 + 00 + 8 \end{array}$$

+90 +10

In this example I can't take from the tens column to give to the units column. I have to go to the hundreds column and take 1 hundred. A ten from this 100 goes to the units. The other 90 goes to the tens!

Check with an addition

① Add your answer from your subtraction to the number you subtracted

$$\begin{array}{r} 808 \rightarrow 800 + 00 + 8 \\ + 96 \rightarrow 000 + 90 + 6 \\ \hline 904 \leftarrow 800 + 90 + 14 \end{array}$$

□□□□ □□□□ 800
||||| 100
1..... 4

② If your answer is the number you took away from then you are probably correct. If your numbers do not match then try to spot your mistakes.