

Work Backwards

Concept

Undo one step to find the start.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Think: To undo, do the opposite: undo + with −, and − with +.

1. Work backwards to find the starting number. Undo each step!

1) I thought of a number, then subtracted 7, and got 27.
What was my number?

−7
→

27

My number = _____

2) I thought of a number, then added 27, and got 66.
What was my number?

+27
→

66

My number = _____

3) I thought of a number, then subtracted 9, and got 0.
What was my number?

−9
→

0

My number = _____

4) I thought of a number, then added 10, and got 53.
What was my number?

+10
→

53

My number = _____

5) I thought of a number, then added 20, and got 51.
What was my number?

+20
→

51

My number = _____

6) I thought of a number, then subtracted 6, and got 7.
What was my number?

−6
→

7

My number = _____

7) I thought of a number, then added 11, and got 20.
What was my number?

+11
→

20

My number = _____

8) I thought of a number, then subtracted 17, and got 7.
What was my number?

−17
→

7

My number = _____