

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 27, and got 5.
What was my number?

−27
→

5

My number = _____

2) I thought of a number, then added 28, and got 72.
What was my number?

+28
→

72

My number = _____

3) I thought of a number, then subtracted 2, and got 3.
What was my number?

−2
→

3

My number = _____

4) I thought of a number, then added 4, and got 37.
What was my number?

+4
→

37

My number = _____

5) I thought of a number, then subtracted 14, and got 1.
What was my number?

−14
→

1

My number = _____

6) I thought of a number, then subtracted 15, and got 2.
What was my number?

−15
→

2

My number = _____

7) I thought of a number, then added 28, and got 50.
What was my number?

+28
→

50

My number = _____

8) I thought of a number, then subtracted 11, and got 0.
What was my number?

−11
→

0

My number = _____