

Use this example to help you solve the following questions. Remember everything you have learnt about ‘inverse’ operations. The first one is very simple so you can follow the steps easily.

I think of a number. I add 20 and subtract 9. My number is 16.

What was my original number?

$$? + 20 - 9 = 16$$

$$16 + 9 - 20 = ?$$

You need to do the inverse (work backwards / do the opposite to find the number I was thinking of).

1. I’m thinking of a number. I add 5,241 and subtract 352. My number is 9,485.

What was my original number?

2. I’m thinking of a number. I add 3,345 and subtract 235. My number is 7,591.

What was my original number?

3. I’m thinking of a number. I add 1,004 and subtract 954, my number is 8,345.

What was my original number?

4. I’m thinking of a number. I add 2,006 and subtract 745, my number is 1363.

What was my original number?

5. I’m thinking of a number. I add 1742 and subtract 625, my number is 1617. What was my original number?