

Testing

The Subtraction Preskill Test

Students are first given the Subtraction Preskill Test on page a of the *Workbook*. The test is administered to the group and requires about nine minutes. It tests students on addition. Students who make no more than 2 errors on Part A, no more than 2 errors on Part B, and no more than 1 error on Part C then take the Subtraction Placement Test. If a student makes too many errors, the *Addition* module (or equivalent) should be taught before readministering the preskill test. Some students may be ready to retake the Subtraction Preskill Test after a few days of review if their errors resulted from carelessness or mistakes on facts. Two copies of the Subtraction Preskill Test are included in the *Workbook*.

The Subtraction Placement Test

Students who pass the Subtraction Preskill Test are then given the Subtraction Placement Test. The placement test indicates whether students have already mastered the skills taught in the *Subtraction* module. If they have not, the test indicates which of three entry points should be used.

1. **Lesson 1:** Introduction of basic facts
2. **Lesson 8:** Introduction of column subtraction
3. **Lesson 25:** Introduction of story problems and complex column subtraction problems

The Subtraction Placement Test may be administered individually or to the entire group. Following are the scripts that should be used for administering the Subtraction Placement Test.

Group Administration

Part A

- a. Open your workbook to page c.
- b. Touch Part A. (Check that students are touching Part A.)
- c. You're going to work all the problems in Part A. You have one minute. When I say "Go," work quickly, but be careful. Go.
- d. (After one minute, say:) Stop. Put down your pencil.

Part B

- b. Touch Part B.
- c. You're going to work the subtraction problems in Part B. Be careful and check your answers as you work. You have two minutes. Get ready. Go.
- d. (After two minutes, say:) Stop. Put down your pencil.

Part C

- b. Touch Part C.
- c. You're going to work the addition and subtraction problems in Part C. Work quickly, but be careful. You have fifteen minutes. Get ready. Go.
- d. (After fifteen minutes, say:) Stop. Put down your pencil.

For individual administration, follow the same directions as for group administration. However, stop testing as soon as the student misses three consecutive problems. Grade the tests. (Note: In Part C do not mark the problems wrong if the student hasn't included the word as part of the answer.) Enter each student's name on a placement group form similar to the one on the following page.

Placement Groups

Lesson 1 Groups		Lesson 8 Groups		Lesson 25 Groups	
Name	Score	Name	Score	Name	Score
Student(s) placing in <i>Subtraction</i> module.				Student(s) placing beyond this module	

Use the following rules to determine each student's placement.

Part A: If students make more than 2 errors on Part A, place students in Lesson 1.

Part B: If students make more than 2 errors on Part B, but not more than 2 errors on Part A, present transition Lesson 8, and then begin the module at Lesson 8. A transition lesson familiarizes students with conventions and directions that were introduced earlier in the module.

Part C: If students make more than 2 errors on Part C but no more than 2 errors on Part A and no more than 2 errors on Part B, present transition Lesson 25, and then begin the module with Lesson 25. Students who make 2 errors or fewer on Part C are too proficient for the module.

The placement test results can also be used to help you group your students. If possible, all students placing in Lesson 1 should be in the same group. Those students placing in Lesson 8 should be in another group and so on. If it is not possible to place the students in ideal groups, make the groups as homogeneous as possible and place the group at the lesson most appropriate for the lower-performing students in the group. Groups formed at the beginning of the year are not fixed. Students should be able to move to the next higher group or to a lower group if they are not working at the same pace as their group.

Placement Guide for Subtraction

Subtraction Preskill Test Part	Subtraction Preskill Test Criteria	Placement or Next Step
Part A	0–2 errors and	Give Subtraction Test only to students who meet Preskill criteria.
Part B	0–2 errors and	
Part C	0–1 error	
	Exceeds above criteria	If students do not meet the criteria, place them in the <i>Addition</i> module. If errors are due to carelessness or mistakes on facts, readminister test in a few days.
Preskill Test Part	Placement Test Criteria	Placement or Next Step
Part A	3 or more errors	Start at Lesson 1
	0–2 errors	Proceed to Test Part B
Part B	3 or more errors	Start at Transition Lesson 8
	0–2 errors	Proceed to Test Part C
Part C	3 or more errors	Start at Transition Lesson 25
	0–2 errors	Too proficient for <i>Subtraction</i> module. Corrective Mathematics Comprehensive Test in the <i>Series Guide</i>