# Skillswise



## Subtraction glossary

Here are some words that will crop up when doing subtraction calculations:

	Subtract		Minus		5	D	Decrease				
Difference		Less than		Take away		Decomposition					
	Fewer than			Reduce		•	Exchange				-

Look below to see how these words can be used in the simple calculation 8 - 5 = 3.

### Decrease

If you **decrease** 8 by 5 you get 3.

### Decomposition

A method of subtraction whereby numbers are broken down into smaller place values: eg one ten is broken down into ten units.

### Difference

The **difference** between 8 and 5 is 3.

#### Exchange

You can exchange one ten for ten lots of units.

Fewer than 3 is 5 fewer than 8.

Less than 3 is 5 less than 8.

Minus 8 minus 5 is 3.

Reduce If you reduce 8 by 5 you get 3.

Subtract If you subtract 5 from 8 you are left with 3.

Take away 8 take away 5 is 3. You'll find more maths words explained in the Skillswise glossary.

www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/glossary/