

Spot The Mistake Answer Key

1. The 4 is in the hundredths place, not the tenths place.
Correct: $7 + 0.5 + 0.04$
2. The 8 is in the thousandths place, not the hundredths place.
Correct: $10 + 2 + 0.3 + 0.008$
3. The 9 is in the hundredths place, not the tenths place.
Correct: $40 + 5 + 0.09$
4. The 2 represents 2 hundredths, not 2 tenths.
Correct: $8 + 0.1 + 0.02 + 0.006$
5. The 5 is in the thousandths place, not the hundredths place.
Correct: $60 + 3 + 0.7 + 0.005$
6. The 3 represents 3 hundredths, not 3 thousandths.
Correct: $10 + 9 + 0.4 + 0.03$
7. The 1 represents 1 hundredth, not 1 tenth.
Correct: $50 + 0.2 + 0.01 + 0.004$
8. The 8 represents 8 hundredths, not 8 tenths.
Correct: $90 + 1 + 0.08 + 0.001$

Teacher's Guide

- Model one example as a class by identifying each digit's place value before checking the expanded form.
- Encourage students to explain the error using place value terms such as tenths, hundredths, and thousandths.
- Provide a place value chart for students who need additional support locating each digit.
- Have partners compare explanations, not just corrected answers, to strengthen mathematical reasoning.
- Challenge advanced students to create an incorrect expanded form for a classmate to analyze and correct.
- Conclude with a discussion about common place value mistakes and strategies for avoiding them.