

Explaining Errors Answer Key

1. Mistake: Did not regroup from the tenths place. Correct answer: 5.27
2. Mistake: Regrouping error in the hundredths place. Correct answer: 7.75
3. Mistake: Did not regroup correctly across the decimal. Correct answer: 6.25
4. Mistake: Borrowed incorrectly from the ones place. Correct answer: 8.45
5. Mistake: Incorrect regrouping in the tenths and hundredths places. Correct answer: 2.37
6. Mistake: Failed to regroup from the ones place. Correct answer: 6.59
7. Mistake: Incorrect regrouping caused the tenths digit to be too large. Correct answer: 3.47
8. Mistake: Subtracted without proper regrouping. Correct answer: 8.35

Teacher's Guide

- Model how to check each place value instead of looking only at the final answer.
- Encourage students to explain the error using place value terms such as ones, tenths, and hundredths.
- Remind students that regrouping is often the source of subtraction mistakes.
- Pair students to discuss whether they found the same error before sharing answers.
- Support struggling students by having them solve the problem correctly first, then compare it to the incorrect work.
- Challenge advanced students to create an incorrect subtraction problem for a classmate to analyze.
- Discuss common decimal subtraction mistakes as a class after completing the worksheet.
- Extend learning by asking students to write one tip for avoiding regrouping errors in future problems.