

Breaking Ten methods

The "breaking ten method" is a commonly used approach for calculating borrowing subtraction in primary school mathematics. Its core is to split the minuend into "10" and the "ones digit," first subtracting the subtrahend from 10, then adding the ones digit. Below is a detailed explanation with examples and steps:

I. Application Scenarios

When the ones digit of the minuend is smaller than the subtrahend, such as: $12 - 5$, $17 - 9$, etc.

II. Core Steps (Taking $14 - 6$ as an Example)

1. Split the minuend

Divide 14 into "10" and "4" ($14 = 10 + 4$).

2. Graphic illustration: Represent 14 with 10 ○ (for 10) and 4 △ (for 4):

○○○○○○○○○○ + △△△△

3. Subtract the subtrahend from 10:

$10 - 6 = 4$ (Subtract 6 ○ from 10 ○, leaving 4 ○).

4. Add the ones digit:

The remaining 4 ○ + the original 4 △ = 8, so $14 - 6 = 8$.

III. Formula and Logic