Sum Difference

Cross-Curricular Focus: Mathematics

Name: _____

Answer the following questions based on the reading passage. Don't forget to go back to the passage whenever necessary to find or confirm your answers.

Did you know that addition and subtraction are related to each other? They are opposites. Yes, they are just like night and day or hot and cold. Addition is able to reverse, or "undo," subtraction. Subtraction is able to reverse, or "undo," addition. Mathematicians have a special word for operations that are the opposite of each other. They call them *inverse operations.* Addition and subtraction are inverse operations. Multiplication and division are also inverse operations.

You can use subtraction to "undo" an addition problem to see if your **sum** is correct. A sum is the answer to an addition problem You can also use addition to "undo" a subtraction problem. In this way, you can check to see if your **difference** is correct. The difference is the answer to a subtraction problem. Having a way to check your answer gives you a way to *justify,* or prove, it. If you make an error, you will be able to find it easily.

Some students don't give their work their full attention. That's why students often make silly mistakes on easy problems. Remember to stay focused on the problem you are solving. Check your answer using an inverse operation.

1) What is meant by the term **inverse operations**?

_____

_____

2) What is a **sum**?

_____

_____

3) What is a **difference**?

_____

_____

4) What does it mean to justify your answer?

_____

_____

5) Why should you keep your attention focused on your work when you solve addition and subtraction problems?

_____

_____

Sum Difference

Cross-Curricular Focus: Mathematics

Name: _**Key**_

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1) What is meant by the term **inverse operations**?

opposite operations

2) What is a **sum**?

the answer to an addition problem

3) What is a **difference**?

the answer to a subtraction problem

4) What does it mean to justify your answer?

prove it

5) Why should you keep your attention focused on your work when you solve addition and subtraction problems?

so you don't make silly mistakes