

**SECTION**  
**4A**

**Ready to Go On? Skills Intervention**

**4-2 Adding and Subtracting Fractions**

To add or subtract fractions with like denominators, just add the numerators and keep the denominator the same.

**Adding and Subtracting Fractions with Like Denominators**

Add  $\frac{1}{8} + \frac{5}{8}$ . Write your answer in simplest form.

$$\frac{1}{8} + \frac{5}{8} = \frac{1+5}{8}$$

Since the denominators are the same, what do you do to the numerators? \_\_\_\_\_

$$= \frac{6}{8} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

Simplify the answer.

To add or subtract fractions with unlike denominators you must rewrite the fractions with a common denominator before you add or subtract.

**Adding and Subtracting Fractions with Unlike Denominators**

Add or subtract. Write each answer in simplest form.

**A.**  $\frac{2}{9} - \frac{7}{12}$

Since the denominators are not the same, find the LCM: \_\_\_\_\_

$$\frac{2}{9} - \frac{7}{12} = \frac{2 \cdot \underline{\hspace{1cm}}}{9 \cdot \underline{\hspace{1cm}}} - \frac{7 \cdot \underline{\hspace{1cm}}}{12 \cdot \underline{\hspace{1cm}}}$$

What number do you multiply  $\frac{2}{9}$  by? \_\_\_\_\_

$$= \frac{\underline{\hspace{1cm}}}{36} - \frac{\underline{\hspace{1cm}}}{36}$$

What number do you multiply  $\frac{7}{12}$  by? \_\_\_\_\_

$$= -\frac{\underline{\hspace{1cm}}}{36}$$

Rewrite the two fractions using the common denominator. Subtract.

**B.**  $\frac{1}{3} + \frac{2}{5} - \frac{5}{6}$

What is the LCM of 3, 5, and 6? \_\_\_\_\_

$$\frac{1}{3} + \frac{2}{5} - \frac{5}{6} = \frac{1 \cdot \underline{\hspace{1cm}}}{3 \cdot \underline{\hspace{1cm}}} + \frac{2 \cdot \underline{\hspace{1cm}}}{5 \cdot \underline{\hspace{1cm}}} - \frac{5 \cdot \underline{\hspace{1cm}}}{6 \cdot \underline{\hspace{1cm}}}$$

What number do you multiply  $\frac{1}{3}$  by? \_\_\_\_\_

$$= \frac{\underline{\hspace{1cm}} + \underline{\hspace{1cm}} - \underline{\hspace{1cm}}}{\underline{\hspace{1cm}} \underline{\hspace{1cm}}}$$

What number do you multiply  $\frac{2}{5}$  by? \_\_\_\_\_

$$= -\frac{\underline{\hspace{1cm}}}{30}$$

What number do you multiply  $\frac{5}{6}$  by? \_\_\_\_\_

$$= -\underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

Simplify the fraction. Write the answer in simplest form.