

Name: Class:

Subtract integers using counters

1. Use counters to subtract $(-10) - (+7) =$

2. Use counters to subtract $(+7) - (+2) =$

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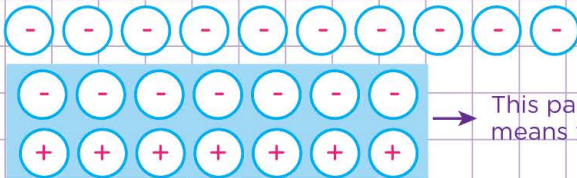
$-10 =$ 

$+7 =$ 

① Begin with 10 negative counters which equals **-10**.

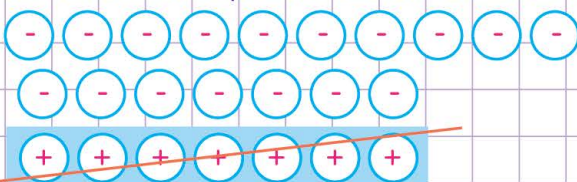


② We can also represent **-10** with more **7** negative counters and **7** positive counters as shown below.



→ This part can be cancelled together, means that it is equal to 0.

③ From this new representation of **-10**, let's remove **7** positive counters.



④ Therefore, 17 negative counters are left.
So, $(-10) - (+7) = -17$

2. Use counters to subtract $(+7) - (+2) =$

$+7 =$ 

Begin with 7 positive counters.

Take away two positive counters from 7 positive counters.



5 positive counters are left.

Therefore, $(+7) - (+2) = +5$