Patterns

When finding the missing number you first need to find the rule. Then apply the rule to the number in front of or before the missing number to find your answer.

E.g. Complete the pattern. 54, 50, 46, ____, 38, _____

Remember: Find the rule. (Are the numbers in ascending or descending order. Choose the appropriate math operation , then use it to figure out the rule.)

The rule is – 4 (because the numbers are getting smaller by 4 each time.)

Answer = 54, 50, 46, 42, 38, 34.

Finish the pattern in the following sets of numbers.

a) 101, 91, 81, _____, 61, _____ The rule is _____

b) 15, 18, 21, _____, _____ The rule is _____

c) 48, 43, 38, _____, _____ The rule is _____

d) 97, 85, 73, _____, 49, _____ The rule is _____