Subtracting fractions with unlike denominators

Give both fractions the same denominator, then subtract. Write answers in simplest form.

Name _____ Date _____

1. $\frac{7}{12} - \frac{3}{8} =$

2. $\frac{2}{3} - \frac{5}{12} =$

3. $\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{9} =$

4. $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{8} =$

5. $\frac{5}{6} - \frac{1}{9} =$

6. $\frac{5}{6} - \frac{2}{5} =$

7. $\frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{10} =$

8. $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{7}{10} =$

9. $\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} =$

10. $\frac{2}{3} - \frac{3}{8} =$

11. $\frac{5}{8} - \frac{1}{4} =$

12. $\frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{5} =$

13. $\frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{8} =$

14. $\frac{8}{9} - \frac{1}{6} =$

15. $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{6} =$

16. $\frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{10} =$

17. $\frac{2}{3} - \frac{5}{8} =$

18. $\frac{4}{5} - \frac{1}{2} =$

19. $\frac{5}{6} - \frac{1}{8} =$

20. $\frac{5}{6} - \frac{1}{2} =$

Subtracting fractions with unlike denominators: answer key

Each answer in colour, with the working before it.

1. $\frac{7}{12} - \frac{3}{8} = \frac{14}{24} - \frac{9}{24} = \frac{5}{24}$
2. $\frac{2}{3} - \frac{5}{12} = \frac{8}{12} - \frac{5}{12} = \frac{3}{12} = \frac{1}{4}$
3. $\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{9} = \frac{3}{9} - \frac{1}{9} = \frac{2}{9}$
4. $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{8} = \frac{4}{8} - \frac{1}{8} = \frac{3}{8}$
5. $\frac{5}{6} - \frac{1}{9} = \frac{15}{18} - \frac{2}{18} = \frac{13}{18}$
6. $\frac{5}{6} - \frac{2}{5} = \frac{25}{30} - \frac{12}{30} = \frac{13}{30}$
7. $\frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{10} = \frac{5}{30} - \frac{3}{30} = \frac{2}{30} = \frac{1}{15}$
8. $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{7}{10} = \frac{15}{20} - \frac{14}{20} = \frac{1}{20}$
9. $\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{4}{12} - \frac{3}{12} = \frac{1}{12}$
10. $\frac{2}{3} - \frac{3}{8} = \frac{16}{24} - \frac{9}{24} = \frac{7}{24}$
11. $\frac{5}{8} - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{5}{8} - \frac{2}{8} = \frac{3}{8}$
12. $\frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{5} = \frac{10}{15} - \frac{3}{15} = \frac{7}{15}$
13. $\frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{8} = \frac{4}{24} - \frac{3}{24} = \frac{1}{24}$
14. $\frac{8}{9} - \frac{1}{6} = \frac{16}{18} - \frac{3}{18} = \frac{13}{18}$
15. $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{6} = \frac{3}{6} - \frac{1}{6} = \frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{3}$
16. $\frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{10} = \frac{2}{10} - \frac{1}{10} = \frac{1}{10}$
17. $\frac{2}{3} - \frac{5}{8} = \frac{16}{24} - \frac{15}{24} = \frac{1}{24}$
18. $\frac{4}{5} - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{8}{10} - \frac{5}{10} = \frac{3}{10}$
19. $\frac{5}{6} - \frac{1}{8} = \frac{20}{24} - \frac{3}{24} = \frac{17}{24}$
20. $\frac{5}{6} - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{5}{6} - \frac{3}{6} = \frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{3}$