

Answers to Practice Exercises for Chapter 12 – The Four Rules for Mixed Numbers

Set A - Question 10

Working

$$5\frac{1}{2} - \frac{7}{12}$$

$$= 5\frac{6}{12} - \frac{7}{12}$$

$$= 4\frac{12}{12} + \frac{6}{12} - \frac{7}{12}$$

$$= 4\frac{11}{12}$$

Comment

Only the fractions are subtracted. The lowest common multiple of 2 and 12 is 12, so this will be the common denominator.

Subtract the fraction numerators. This will give a negative answer, so take 1 from the integers, leaving 4, and add $\frac{12}{12}$ to the fractions

Now $12 + 6 - 7$ gives a positive numerator: 11