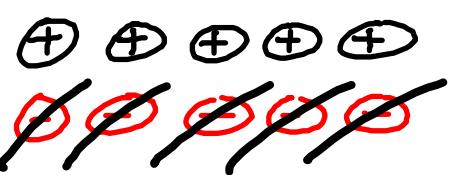


$$5 - (-3)$$



$$(-5) - 3$$



① Make zero pairs for all the integers in the problem

② The Subtracted (the 2nd Number)
will tell you which counters
to eliminate

minuend - Subtrahend

$$\begin{array}{r} \uparrow \\ 9 - 7 = 2 \\ (\text{1st Number}) \quad (\text{2nd Number}) \end{array}$$

Difference

- If the 2nd Number is negative "eliminate" ALL the negative counters - what you have left is your answer
- If the 2nd Number is Positive "eliminate" ALL the positive counters - what you have left is your answer