



# Hands On: Expressions with Parentheses

**CA Standards**  
**KEY** AF 1.2, **KEY** AF 1.3

Parentheses in an expression tell you which operation to do first.

Evaluate each expression.

$$(4 + 8) - 6 = \square$$

**Step 1** Add  $4 + 8$  first.  
 $4 + 8 = 12$

**Step 2** Then subtract 6.  
 $12 - 6 = 6$

**Solution:**  $(4 + 8) - 6 = 6$

$$4 + (8 - 6) = \square$$

**Step 1** Subtract  $8 - 6$  first.  
 $8 - 6 = 2$

**Step 2** Then add 4.  
 $4 + 2 = 6$

**Solution:**  $4 + (8 - 6) = 6$

Evaluate each expression.

1.  $(10 - 4) + 2$  \_\_\_\_\_

2.  $10 - (4 + 2)$  \_\_\_\_\_

3.  $22 - (11 + 7)$  \_\_\_\_\_

4.  $(22 - 11) + 7$  \_\_\_\_\_

5.  $(18 - 9) + 9$  \_\_\_\_\_

6.  $18 - (9 + 9)$  \_\_\_\_\_



**Writing Math** What do the parentheses in an expression mean?

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