Subtraction: 4-Digit Column Method

1

$$\begin{array}{r} 5346 \\ -2747 \\ \hline \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Place the numbers one on top of the other, lining up the thousands, hundreds, tens and ones. Subtract the ones (the answer to 6 – 7 is negative).

2

$$\begin{array}{r} 53\overset{3}{\cancel{4}}\overset{1}{6} \\ -2747 \\ \hline 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Exchange a 10 from the 40 to give 16 ones. Subtract the ones: 16 – 7 = 9.

3

$$\begin{array}{r} 5\overset{2}{\cancel{3}}\overset{13}{\cancel{4}}\overset{1}{6} \\ -2747 \\ \hline 99 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Subtract the tens (the answer to 30 – 40 is negative). Exchange a 100 from the 300 to give: 130 – 40 = 90.

4

$$\begin{array}{r} \overset{4}{\cancel{5}}\overset{12}{\cancel{3}}\overset{13}{\cancel{4}}\overset{1}{6} \\ -2747 \\ \hline 599 \\ \hline \end{array}$$
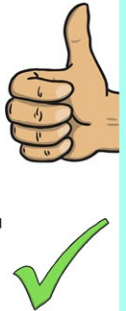
Subtract the hundreds (the answer to 200 – 700 is negative). Exchange a 1000 from the 5000 to give: 1200 – 700 = 500.

5

$$\begin{array}{r} \overset{4}{\cancel{5}}\overset{12}{\cancel{3}}\overset{13}{\cancel{4}}\overset{1}{6} \\ 2747 \\ \hline 2599 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Subtract the thousands: 4000 – 2000 = 2000.

6

$$\begin{array}{r} 5346 \\ 2747 \\ \hline 2599 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Check your answer.