

Math Magic Trick 11

Start:

Teacher tells the person to do the following:

Step 1) Write any number	example:	4
Step 2) Add the next larger number		9
Step 3) Add 9 to this sum		18
Step 4) Divide the result by 2		9
Step 5) Subtract the original number		5

Mental Trick:

Teacher tells the person that the final number is five.

How teacher gets the answer:

The final answer is always five.

Why it works:

Step 1) Write any whole number	example:	x
Step 2) Add the next larger number		x + x + 1
Step 3) Add 9 to this sum		x + x + 1 + 9
Step 4) Divide the result by 2		(x + x + 1 + 9)/2
Step 5) Subtract the original number		(x + x + 1 + 9)/2 - x
Simplifying:		(x + x + 1 + 9)/2 - x
		(2x + 10)/2 - x
		2(x + 5)/2 - x
		x + 5 - x
		5