Lesson 10: Estimating answers to additions and subtractions

1. a) 4,000   5,000
  4,000 + 5,000 = 9,000
  Lexi's score is roughly 9,000 points.
  b) 4,000 – 3,000 = 1,000 Max has roughly 1,000 points now.
  c) Lexi 3,987 + 5,123 = 9,110
   Max 3,987 – 3,104 = 883
   The estimates are close to the exact answers.

2. 2,101 – 998 linked with 2,100 – 1,000
  2,891 – 1,100 linked with 2,900 – 1,000
  1,975 + 2,010 linked with 2,000 + 2,000
  1,998 + 2,101 linked with 2,000 + 2,000
  2,925 – 975 = linked with 2,900 – 1,000
  2,998 – 1,998 linked with 3,000 – 2,000

3. a) 6,152 + 3,025 = 9,177   6,452 – 2,005 = 4,447
   Estimates may vary
   6,000 + 3,000 = 9,000   6,500 – 2,000 = 4,500
  b) Explanations will vary but children should mention rounding the numbers.

4. 6,491 – 2,725 = 3,766
  6,000 – 3,000 = 3,000
  6,500 – 2,700 = 3,800
  6,490 – 2,730 = 3,760
  Children may comment that rounding to 10 gives you the closest answer although rounding to 1,000 is easier to do.

Reflect

Explanations will vary, for example children may round to the nearest 1,000 (2,000 – 1,000 = 1,000) or to the nearest 100 (1,900 – 1,000 = 900).