

Advancing Student Thinking – Part 1

1 Miss Tyus: Tell me what you've got here.
2 Leah: Here's the 6 minus 4 equals 2.
3 Miss Tyus: Mm-hmm.
4 Leah: And there's the 6 and that's the 4 and then I know that 9 minus 0 equals 9.
5 Miss Tyus: Oh okay! And then what did you do?
6 Leah: I knew that that's the tens and that's the ones since 6 minus 4 is first, so I
7 know that 2 is the tens and 9 is the ones because it was like after it.
8 Miss Tyus: But wait a minute. I'm confused. Now, how come it's not 2 plus 9 is 11?
9 Because you have a 2 and 9. A 2 and 9 that can equal an 11.
10 Leah: Because we had to subtract 69 minus 40. Can't add these two. These two
11 are the answers.
12 Miss Tyus: Oh okay. Can you write another equation for this, for somebody like me
13 that didn't understand the 6 minus 4? What would that look like if
14 you...because I heard you say they were tens. What would that look like
15 for somebody like me that couldn't see it? Can you write me another
16 equation for this right here? To show that that's tens.
17 Leah: Mm-hmm (affirmative)
18 Miss Tyus: Okay. I'll come back and check on you.
19 Miss Tyus: What have we got going on? Back to you.
20 Elsie: I put 60 tens. I mean 6 tens. And they represent 60.
21 Miss Tyus: Mm-hmm
22 Elsie: We take a -- Then I drew 9 ones and then I (motions X with pencil)
23 Miss Tyus: You X'd them
24 Elsie: X'd out
25 Elsie: 40.
26 Miss Tyus: Right. Last time I saw you this is where you were. What was the answer
27 you determined?
28 Elsie: I got 29.
29 Miss Tyus: You got 29. What is this right here?
30 Elsie: That is Anna's way she might have solved it and she might have solved it
31 my way too.
32 Miss Tyus: Wait. But you have 70. I thought we 69.
33 Elsie: Well, yeah. But she could have solved it this way too. 70 minus 40 minus
34 1 equals 29. But..
35 Miss Tyus: But why would she go to 70?
36 Elsie: It would still equal the same answer.
37 Miss Tyus: I see this equation right here. I saw that you tried to draw a one hundreds
38 chart. Why don't you use it and a marker
39 Elsie: I did use that way.
40 Miss Tyus: Leave it on there next time. Redraw it for me so you can explain that to
41 someone else.