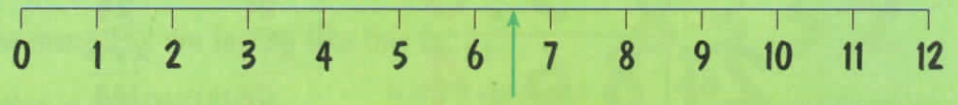
THE NUMBER LINE

The NUMBER LINE is a very special line. It is as long as you can possibly imagine, and goes up in tiny little steps. Numbers are placed on the line in order, going from smallest to biggest.

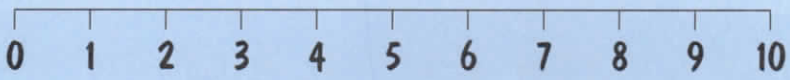
Here is part of the number line.



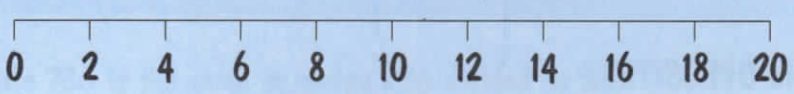
6.5 is halfway between 6 and 7

24 Copy these number lines and mark on the positions of the numbers given.

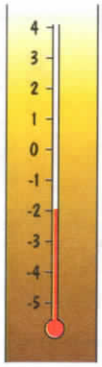
a) 2.5 7.5 4.3



b) 3 17 12.5

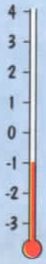


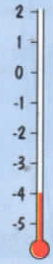
The scale on a thermometer is a NUMBER LINE. Thermometers that are used to measure the temperature on very cold days, need numbers that are LESS THAN 0. These are called NEGATIVE NUMBERS.



The temperature on this thermometer is -2°C.

25 Write down the temperature on these thermometers:

a) 

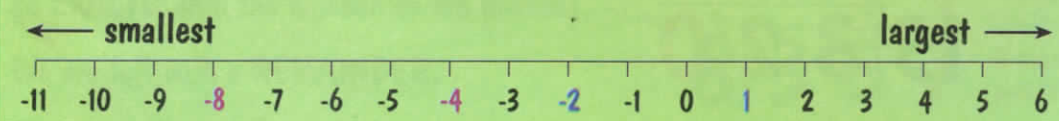
b) 

c)

d)

Which temperature is the coldest?

NEGATIVE NUMBERS are placed on the number line to the left of 0. The further to the RIGHT that a number is on the number line, the BIGGER it is. The SMALLER the number is, the further LEFT it is on the number line.



-8 is less than -4
-2 is less than 1

26 a) Make a copy of the number line, and place these numbers on it.
-3.5 2.5 -1.5 -6.5

b) Write these numbers down in order, starting with the smallest:
1 -4 3.5 -2.5 -7 0