

Lesson № 19

### **Introduction to Negative Numbers**

Claus was listening to the weather channel. The temperature outside was 20°C. What did the temperature become after it dropped 15°C?

At night the temperature dropped another 15°C. What did the temperature become at night?

### Numbers can be Positive or Negative:

Not only temperatures can be negative. Consider elevations that are calculated with respect to the sea level. Most of the land is located above the sea level. For example, the elevation of mountain Everest is 8, 848 m. Contrary to that, the coastline of Caspian Sea is 28 meters below the sea level. Its elevation is negative: –28 m. Many places in Netherlands also have negative elevation.





#### **Comparing negative numbers.**

Notice the arrowhead on the far right end of the number line above. That arrow tells you the direction in which the numbers are getting bigger. In particular, that arrow also tells you that the negatives are getting *smaller* as they move off to the left. That is, –5 is *smaller* than –4.

- 15 °C - 15 °C - 15 °C - 10 - 10 - 20 - 10 - 20 

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# Visualizing Positive and Negative Numbers via a Balloon Model.

When people fly air baskets with air balloons they not only need to fill these balloons with hot air but also to have some weights for balance.

If one attaches both several weights and several balloons then the air basket will go up or down depending on how many balloons and weights are attached.

**Positive numbers** act like the air balloons. They pull the basket up.

**Negative numbers** act like the weights. They drag the basket down.



**3** Try to match the expressions with negative numbers and the pictures to evaluate these expressions.







A class has 30 students. One fifth of the students went to the movie night. How many students went to the movie night?

Lisa wrapped one third of 18 presents into gift paper and placed the rest into gift boxes. How many gift boxes did she use?

# **Revisit Coordinates.**

The first coordinate (x) tells the position of the object along the number line. The second coordinate (*y*) tells how far the object is above or below the number line.





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10 Plot the following points in the blank coordinate system:

**A**(3, 4)

B(-3, 2) C(1, -1) D(-2, 5) F(-5, 1)