

Negative numbers – first encounter

MODULE 1 · PLACE VALUE AND THE DECIMAL NUMBER SYSTEM **NUMBER**

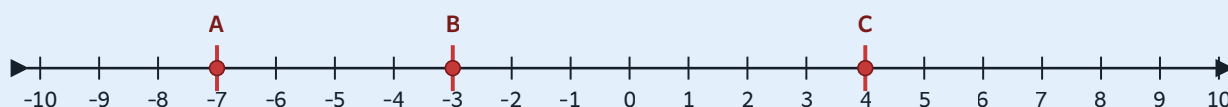
Numbers less than zero are called **negative numbers**. They sit to the left of zero on the number line. Numbers greater than zero are **positive numbers**.

→ On a thermometer, -5°C is colder than 0°C .

→ On a number line: ...-3, -2, -1, **0**, 1, 2, 3...

 TRY IT ON THE LINE

Use the number line to answer each question.



1. Mark **D** at **-5** and **E** at **+8**.
2. How many steps is it from **A** to **C**? _____ steps.
3. Which mark sits at the **lowest temperature** if the line is a thermometer? _____
4. If you go **6 steps right** from **B**, where do you land? _____

 PRACTICE

- 1** Cian checks four account balances on his granny's farm spreadsheet at the end of the month. The balances in euros are **12**, **- 9**, **14** and **15**. Order the balances from smallest to largest.

Order from smallest (most negative) to largest: 12, -9, 14, 15

- 2 Four members of the local hurling club check the balances on their club savings accounts before the team dinner. The balances in euros are -1, 14, 8 and 7. Order the balances from smallest to largest.

Order from smallest (most negative) to largest: -1, 14, 8, 7

ALWAYS, SOMETIMES, NEVER

Always true, sometimes true, or never true? Write A, S or N.

- a. Any positive number is bigger than any negative number.
- b. -7 is bigger than -3 .
- c. If a number has a bigger digit, it is the bigger number.
- d. Zero is bigger than every negative number.
- e. The temperature went from -2°C to $+3^{\circ}\text{C}$ — that's a 5-degree rise.
- f. -5 is colder than -10 .