

**Activity 46. Role-play the conversation between Alice, the White Queen, and the Red Queen from Lewis Carroll’s “Through the Looking-Glass”. Find the names of arithmetical operations.**

“Manners are not taught in lessons,” said Alice. “Lessons teach you to do sums, and things of that sort.”

“And you do addition?” the White Queen asked. “What’s one and one and one and one and one and one and one and one and one and one and one?”

“I don’t know,” said Alice. “I lost count.”

“She can’t do addition,” the Red Queen interrupted. “Can you do subtraction? Take nine from eight.”

“Nine from eight I can’t, you know,” Alice replied very readily: “but —”

“She can’t do subtraction,” said the White Queen. “Can you do division? Divide a loaf by a knife — what’s the answer to that?”

“I suppose —” Alice was beginning, but the Red Queen answered for her. “Bread-and-butter, of course. Try another subtraction sum. Take a bone from a dog: what remains?”

Alice considered. “The bone wouldn’t remain, of course, if I took it — and the dog wouldn’t remain; it would come to bite me — and I’m sure I shouldn’t remain!”

“Then you think nothing would remain?” said the Red Queen.

“I think that’s the answer.”

“Wrong, as usual,” said the Red Queen: “the dog’s temper would remain.”

“But I don’t see how —”

“Why, look here!” the Red Queen cried. “The dog would lose its temper, wouldn’t it?”

“Perhaps it would,” Alice replied cautiously.

“Then if the dog went away, its temper would remain!” the Queen exclaimed triumphantly.

Alice said, as gravely as she could, “They might go different ways.” But she couldn’t help thinking to herself, “What dreadful nonsense we are talking!”

“She can’t do sums a bit!” the Queens said together, with great emphasis.

“Can *you* do sums?” Alice said, turning suddenly on the White Queen, for she didn’t like being found fault with so much.

The Queen gasped and shut her eyes. “I can do addition, if you give me time — but I can’t do subtraction, under any circumstances!”

*(from “Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There,” by Lewis Carroll, 1871)*