

## Smarter Balanced Assessment Item Illustrating 3.NBT.A.2

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**Example Stem 1:** What unknown number makes this equation true?

$$763 + 29 = \square$$

**Example Stem 2:** What unknown number makes this equation true?

$$\square = 763 + 29$$

### Answer Key

792; 792

### Elaboration on Alignment

Students work with addition and subtraction within 1000 in grade 3 is still strongly grounded in place value understanding, properties of operations, and the relationship between addition and subtraction. However, it is important for assessment developers to recognize that the outcome of that standard is that students are able to “fluently add and subtract within 1000.” Therefore, most items aligned to 3.NBT.A.2, especially on summative assessments, should focus strongly on that outcome. As shown in this set of items, it is important to continue to sometimes position the unknown on the left side of the equal sign to ensure that the meaning of the equal sign established in grade 1 continues to be part of students’ ongoing work with equations.

### Learn More

Learn more with the [MATH Assessment Item Alignment Modules](#) at [www.achievethecore.org](http://www.achievethecore.org).