Understanding Roman Numerals Lesson

Solve the following problems.

1. Write the number 36 in Roman numeral format.

2. Find the difference between these Roman numerals in normal form.

XXXV – XXI

These problems are based on Roman Numerals: I = 1, V = 5, X = 10.

Explanation to number 1:

We are looking to make 36 with values of tens, fives, and ones. In this case we could make 36 with 10 + 10 + 10 + 5 +1. We can convert each value to a Roman numeral to convert this value:

10 + 10 + 10 + 5 +1
 X   X   X   V I

XXXVI = 36

Explanation to number 2:

We need to find the difference between these two Roman numerals. The quickest way to do this is to first convert each value from Roman numerals to normal form:

X   X   X V – X   X   I
10 10 10 5   10 10 1

35 – 21 = 14