Percentage Decrease Word Problem Guided Lesson Explanation

For all of the problems we need to determine the percentage decrease. We can use this simple formula to help us:

$\frac{difference\ of\ values}{larger\ value}$ x 100%

1. Joe drank 12 cups of coffee (last week), 5 cups (this week).

$\frac{12-5}{12}$ x 100% = $\frac{7}{12}$ x 100% = 0.5833 x 100% = 58.33% (58%) less coffee

2) Joe overtime pay = $683, no overtime pay = $512

$\frac{683-512}{683}$ x 100% = $\frac{171}{683}$ x 100% = 0.25 x 100% = 25% less pay

3) Order pizza = 26 pieces of pepperoni, Joe's pizza 6 pieces of pepperoni.

$\frac{26-6}{26}$ x 100% = $\frac{20}{26}$ x 100% = 0.7692 x 100% = 76.92% (77%) less coffee