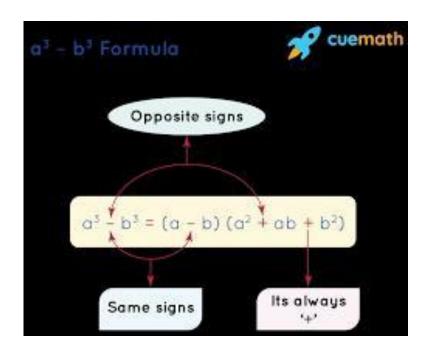
## ALGEBRA USING A,B

## **DEFINITION FOR ALGEBRA**

Algebra is the study of variables and the rules for manipulating these variables in formulas; it is a unifying thread of almost all of mathematics. Elementary algebra deals with the manipulation of variables as if they were numbers and is therefore essential in all applications of mathematics

## Definition for a<sup>3</sup> - b<sup>3</sup>

The  $a^3$  -  $b^3$  formula can be verified, by multiplying (a - b) ( $a^2$  + ab +  $b^2$ ) and see whether you get  $a^3$  -  $b^3$ . The  $a^3$  -  $b^3$  formula or the difference of cubes formula is explained below:



$$a^3 - b^3$$
 Formula =  $a^3 - b^3$  =  $(a - b) (a^2 + ab + b^2)$ 

## Example:

Find the value of 108<sup>3</sup> - 8<sup>3</sup> using a<sup>3</sup> - b<sup>3</sup> formula.

**Solution:** 

To find: 108<sup>3</sup> - 8<sup>3</sup>.

Let us assume that a = 108 and b = 8.

We will substitute these in the formula of a<sup>3</sup> - b<sup>3</sup>.

$$a^3 - b^3 = (a - b) (a^2 + ab + b^2)$$

$$108^3 - 8^3 = (108 - 8)(108^2 + (108)(8) + 8^2)$$

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