Subtract Mixed Numbers

Solve problems 1–6. Write the difference in simplest form.

1. Janelle and Benjamin are measuring themselves in feet. Janelle is $5 \frac{1}{3}$ feet tall. Benjamin is $5 \frac{1}{2}$ feet tall. How much taller is Benjamin? Hint: Use 6 as a common denominator for the fractions.

2. Kendra is $4 \frac{5}{6}$ feet tall. Her sister is $5 \frac{2}{3}$ feet tall. How much taller is Kendra’s sister?

3. Bud spent $17 \frac{3}{4}$ hours at baseball practice this week. He spent $36 \frac{1}{2}$ hours at school. How many more hours did he spend at school than at baseball practice?

4. Bart subtracted $8 \frac{5}{7} - 4 \frac{6}{7}$ and found $4 \frac{6}{7}$. Explain what Bart’s mistake was. Then tell the correct answer.

5. Chloe was writing a play to perform with her friends. In the play, the prince and princess had to escape from a tower, but their rope of knotted bed sheets was too short. If the tower was $57 \frac{1}{4}$ feet tall and the rope was $52 \frac{5}{18}$ feet long, how far would they have to jump? If they added to their rope by cutting that exact length off a 6-foot long sheet, how long would the leftover piece of sheet be?

6. The prince and princess in Chloe’s play cut the new sheet and added to their rope of knotted sheets. They were disappointed to find that their rope was too short. Why? Give an example of possible lengths to illustrate your answer.