Task

a. At the beginning of the month, Evan had $24 in his account at the school bookstore. Use a variable to represent the unknown quantity in each transaction below and write an equation to represent it. Then represent each transaction on a number line. What is the unknown quantity in each case?

i. First he bought some notebooks and pens that cost $16.

ii. Then he deposited some more money and his account balance was $28.

iii. Then he bought a book for English class that cost $34.

iv. Then he deposited exactly enough money so that he paid off his debt to the bookstore.

b. Explain why it makes sense to use a negative number to represent Evan’s account balance when he owes money.