'minus' can be interpreted both spatially (how much beer is available?) and also temporally (going forwards and back in time). Perhaps this is too near the knuckle to wheel out in school, but I think it is a nice analogy and you don't need to write anything down.

The familiar 'word-less' proof of Pythagoras' (which appears in a short story by Aldous Huxley) reappears, and also the 1089 trick, but on the whole the material covered is new (even if some of it will be very familiar to the readership). I also enjoyed the puzzles in Chapter 8, two of which were new to me, and they are all worth using in the classroom.

Given the author's own specialisms (mainly fluid dynamics and astrophysics), it is good to see a substantial emphasis on the use of algebra in applied mathematics. There are stimulating chapters on passing trains, crossed ladders, rollercoaster dynamics and tuning a guitar. The book ends with some paradoxes involving infinite series and the AM-GM inequality. I can recommend it thoroughly.

References

1. *1089 and all that*, OUP 2022, reviewed by Gerry Leversha, *Math. Gaz*. **87** (July 2003) pp. 379-380
2. *The wonder book of geometry*, OUP 2020, reviewed by Gerry Leversha, *Math. Gaz*. **106** (July 2022) pp. 377-378
3. *The calculus story*, OUP 2017, reviewed by Adam McBride, *Math. Gaz*. **102** (November 2018) pp. 566-567

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