

# Algebra

Lesson  
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## Algebraic Representation


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Solving problems in algebra depends on your ability to represent missing unknown quantities.

Representing unknown quantities is easy to do if you know the "language".

**For example**, what operation is meant by the phrase more than ? 

If you guessed addition, then you are right! This skill of "translating" between words and mathematical operations just takes a little vocabulary drill. Below are some of the most common phrases used in problem solving, together with the operations they represent. Study these relationships and you should be a whiz at algebraic representation. 

### ADD

add  
sum  
more than  
increased by  
exceeds  
in all  
total  
gain  
plus

### SUBTRACT

subtract  
difference  
\*less than  
decreased by  
diminished by  
minus  
fewer  
reduced by

### MULTIPLY

multiplied by  
of  
product  
times  
double  
twice  
triple

### DIVIDE

divide  
quotient  
divided equally  
per  
ratio of

\* be careful using "less than" - it reverses the order of things

Also, be careful of the placement of commas in statements.

In the statement "*the sum of a and b, divided by 3*" the comma indicates that the answer is  $(a+b)/3$  and not  $a + b/3$ .

## Examples

1.	two more than a number	$2 + x$
2.	five less than three times a number	$3x - 5$ notice how this changed the order
3.	seven times a number, increased by 4	$7x + 4$
4.	six decreased by 5 times a number	$6 - 5x$

**Now let's try working in the other direction:**

5.	Given $2x - 4$ , write a verbal expression that matches this mathematical expression.	Some possible verbal answers: twice a number decreased by 4 four less than two times a value double a number minus 4 two times a number diminished by 4
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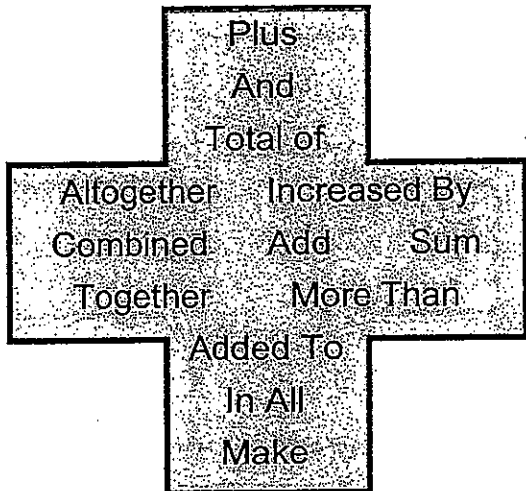
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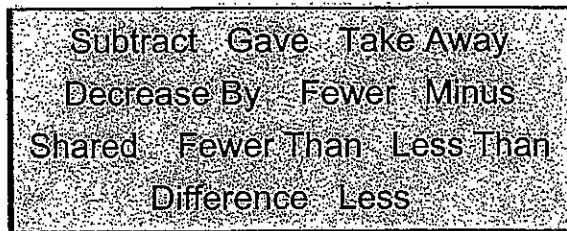
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# Words and Phrases to Math Symbols

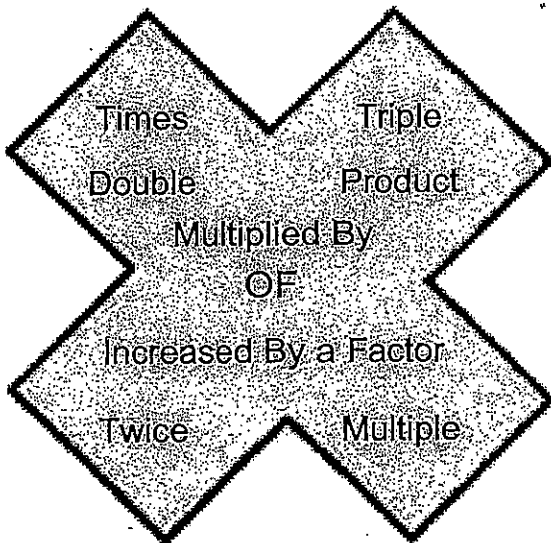
## Addition



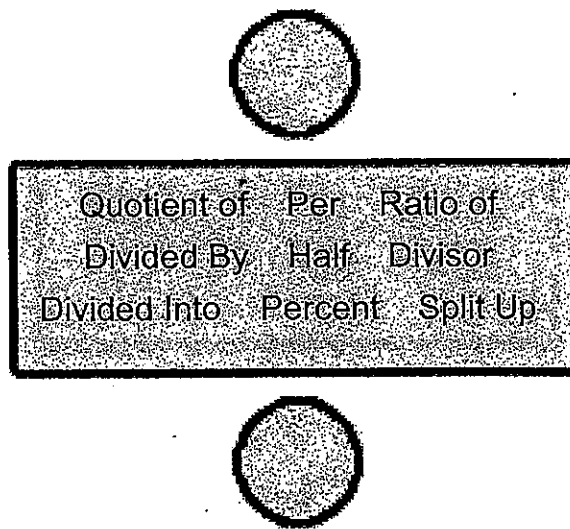
## Subtraction



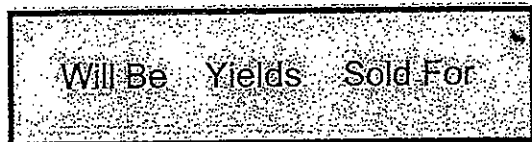
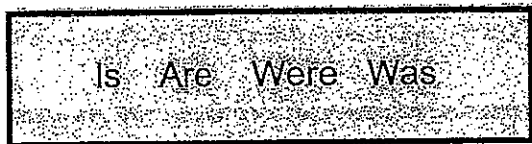
## Multiplication



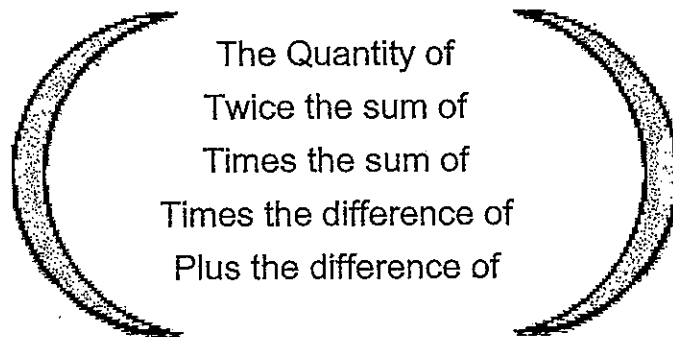
## Division



## Equals



## Parenthesis Words



## Variable and Verbal Expressions

 Write each as an algebraic expression.

1) the difference of 10 and 5


2) the quotient of 14 and 7

3)  $u$  decreased by 17

4) half of 14

5)  $x$  increased by 66) the product of  $x$  and 77) the sum of  $q$  and 8

8) 6 squared

 9) twice  $q$ 

10) the product of 8 and 12

11) the quotient of 18 and  $n$ 12)  $n$  cubed

Write each as a verbal expression.

13)  $\frac{x}{2}$ 14)  $a + 9$ 15)  $19 - 3$ 16)  $5n$

17)  $q^2$

18)  $\frac{40}{5}$

19)  $\frac{a}{8}$

20)  $x + 8$

21)  $n - 14$

22)  $2^2$

23)  $\frac{60}{5}$

24)  $n \cdot 6$

**Evaluate each expression.**

25) 5 squared

26) the product of 8 and 10

27) 20 decreased by 17

28) the quotient of 96 and 8

29) twice 6

30) 10 less than 17

31) 9 times 5

32) 10 increased by 8

33) 7 squared

34) the product of 4 and 5

TRANSLATING ENGLISH PHRASES INTO ALGEBRAIC LANGUAGE

Translate each phrase into symbols:

- |    |   |     |       |
|----|---|-----|-------|
| A. | 1. The sum of $x$ and 4                             | 1.  | _____ |
|    | 2. The product of $a$ and $b$                       | 2.  | _____ |
|    | 3. Increase $y$ by 10                               | 3.  | _____ |
|    | 4. The difference between $x$ and $y$               | 4.  | _____ |
|    | 5. $k$ diminished by 12                             | 5.  | _____ |
|    | 6. Twice $n$  | 6.  | _____ |
|    | 7. 4 more than $r$                                  | 7.  | _____ |
|    | 8. $y$ divided by $x$                               | 8.  | _____ |
|    | 9. 14 less $n$                                      | 9.  | _____ |
|    | 10. The sum of $2x$ and $y$                         | 10. | _____ |
|    | 11. $r$ squared                                     | 11. | _____ |
|    | 12. 4 less than $z$                                 | 12. | _____ |
|    | 13. The product of $n$ and $m$                      | 13. | _____ |
|    | 14. One-fourth of $n$                               | 14. | _____ |
|    | 15. 3 more than twice $n$                           | 15. | _____ |
|    | 16. 5 less than 5 times $x$                         | 16. | _____ |
|    | 17. 6 times $x$ increased by 3                      | 17. | _____ |
|    | 18. $t$ more than $w$                               | 18. | _____ |
| B. | 19. 8 more than the product of three times a number | 19. | _____ |
|    | 20. The sum of $a$ squared and $b$ squared          | 20. | _____ |
|    | 21. Twice the sum of $x$ and $y$                    | 21. | _____ |
|    | 22. Three-fourths of $a$ increased by 6             | 22. | _____ |
|    | 23. One-half the sum of $L$ and $W$                 | 23. | _____ |
|    | 24. A number that exceeds $n$ by 4                  | 24. | _____ |
|    | 25. The square of the sum of $a$ and $b$            | 25. | _____ |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Math A

Translate the following phrases into algebraic terms.

1) 5 more than 2 times a number	
2) 7 less than 3 times a number	
3) 4 times a number decreased by two	
4) twice a number diminished by 9	
5) 6 less than a number	
6) 8 increased by 8 times a number	
7) the sum of a number and 6	
8) 4 times a number, decreased by 3	
9) 3 times the sum of twice a number and 8	
10) two-thirds of a number	
11) 4 times a number, increased by 3 times the number	
12) 2 times a number increased by 8	
13) the quotient of a number and 12	
14) half of 3 times a number	
15) 5 times a number diminished by 6	
16) 4 times the difference between twice a number and 8	
17) one fourth of a number	
18) the product of 6 and number	
19) 14 reduced by 3 times a number	
20) a number divided by 3	

Names Homework Date 9/27/18

Directions: Use mathematical symbols to translate each written expression.

1. 8 plus 8 \_\_\_\_\_

2. 7 minus 3 \_\_\_\_\_

3.  $y$  plus 3 \_\_\_\_\_

4. product of 6 and  $d$  \_\_\_\_\_

5. 5 less than 8 \_\_\_\_\_

6. 15 added to  $b$  \_\_\_\_\_

7. one-third of 4 \_\_\_\_\_

8. 20 divided by 4 \_\_\_\_\_

9. 20 decreased by  $w$  \_\_\_\_\_

10.  $r$  multiplied by 6 \_\_\_\_\_

11. 20 times 4 \_\_\_\_\_

12. twice  $w$  \_\_\_\_\_

13. the sum of  $b$  and 8 \_\_\_\_\_

14. a number that exceeds  $m$  by 4 \_\_\_\_\_



Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Score : \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher : \_\_\_\_\_

Date : \_\_\_\_\_

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### Translate Algebraic Expressions

1) Take away 4 from 8 times p

\_\_\_\_\_

2) One-half of w is subtracted from 3

\_\_\_\_\_

3) Three-fifths of n is added to 4

\_\_\_\_\_

4) 2 minus b

\_\_\_\_\_

5) Two-fifths of the sum of 9 and q

\_\_\_\_\_

6) 8 is added to five-sixths of m

\_\_\_\_\_

7) One-fourth of the sum of x and 4

\_\_\_\_\_

8) Sum of s and 7

\_\_\_\_\_

9) y is added to 9

\_\_\_\_\_

10) 5 less than d

\_\_\_\_\_

# Why Did the Cow Keep Jumping Over the Barrel?

Translate each phrase below into an algebraic expression and find your answer in the corresponding answer column. Write the letter of that exercise in the box that contains the number of the answer.

- |                                  |                   |   |                         |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|---|-------------------------|
| (E) 3 times a number             | (18) $x + 3$      | (S) 5 times a number, increased by 8        | (22) $8(x + 5)$         |
| (O) 3 more than a number         | (15) $3x - 8$     | (A) 5 times the sum of a number and 8       | (4) $8(2x + 5)$         |
| (S) 3 decreased by a number      | (19) $x - 3$      | (H) 5 more than 8 times a number            | (2) $8x + 5$            |
| (R) 3 less than a number         | (12) $3x + 8$     | (O) 8 times the sum of a number and 5       | (13) $2(5x + 8)$        |
| (A) one third of a number        | (3) $3x$          | (C) twice the sum of 5 times a number and 8 | (6) $5x + 8$            |
| (I) 8 more than 3 times a number | (25) $3 - x$      | (T) 2 more than five eighths of a number    | (20) $5(x + 8)$         |
| (N) 8 less than 3 times a number | (5) $\frac{x}{3}$ | (W) 8 times the sum of twice a number and 5 | (11) $\frac{5}{8}x + 2$ |

- |   |                        |   |                         |
|---|------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| (A) 7 less than 4 times a number                      | (1) $7 - 4x$           | (T) 9 meters higher than altitude $x$                   | (7) $x + 15$            |
| (S) 7 decreased by 4 times a number                   | (16) $2x - 9$          | (F) 15 meters per second slower than speed $x$          | (28) $x + 9$            |
| (G) 9 less than twice a number                        | (14) $7x + 4$          | (P) $15^\circ\text{C}$ hotter than temperature $x$      | (26) $4x - 9$           |
| (N) 9 decreased by twice a number                     | (9) $4x - 7$           | (O) 9 meters shorter than twice length $x$              | (23) $2x - 9$           |
| (O) 9 less than half a number                         | (8) $7x + 4x$          | (C) 9 years older than twice age $x$                    | (10) $2x + 9$           |
| (I) 7 times a number, increased by 4                  | (24) $9 - 2x$          | (H) \$9 cheaper than 4 times price $x$                  | (17) $x - 15$           |
| (R) 7 times a number, increased by 4 times the number | (27) $\frac{x}{2} - 9$ | (M) 9 centimeters less than three fourths of length $x$ | (21) $\frac{3}{4}x - 9$ |

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
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Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Problem Solving

The sum of three times a number and 45 is 66. Find the number.

$$3x + 45 = 66$$
$$3x + 45 - 45 = 66 - 45$$

$$3x = 21$$

$$x = 7 \quad \text{The number is 7.}$$

**Write an equation for each word problem and solve it.**

- The sum of 5 times a number and  $-11$  is  $-16$ . Find the number.  
**Equation** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Solution** \_\_\_\_\_
- The sum of four times a number and 3 is  $-13$ . Find the number.  
**Equation** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Solution** \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 times the sum of a number and 2 is 35. Find the number.  
**Equation** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Solution** \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 times the sum of a number and negative 2 is  $-15$ . Find the number.  
**Equation** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Solution** \_\_\_\_\_
- Six times the difference of a number and 9 is 42. Find the number.  
**Equation** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Solution** \_\_\_\_\_
- The sum of eight times a number and 3 is 59. Find the number.  
**Equation** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Solution** \_\_\_\_\_
- Twelve times the sum of a number and  $-8$  is 36. Find the number.  
**Equation** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Solution** \_\_\_\_\_
- The sum of seven times a number and 11 is 81. find the number.  
**Equation** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Solution** \_\_\_\_\_