

TOPIC: ALGEBRAIC EXPRESSIONS

- **Algebraic Expression:** Combination of numbers and _____ with math operations.

Variable: Letter which represents any number → value [**CAN | DOESN'T**] vary → usually _____

Coefficient: Number multiplying a variable → value [**CAN | DOESN'T**] vary → usually at _____

Constant: Number without variables → value [**CAN | DOESN'T**] vary → usually at _____

Numerical Expressions

(Numbers, operations)

$$2(3) + 5$$

Algebraic Expressions

(Numbers, operations, _____ variables)

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad \textcolor{red}{2} \textcolor{green}{x} + \textcolor{blue}{5} \quad \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

EXAMPLE: Determine if each of the following are algebraic expressions. Identify any **coefficients** & **constants**.

(A)

$$4\sqrt{x} + 8$$

Numbers? ☐
Operations? ☐
Variables? ☐

[YES | NO]

Coefficient: _____

Constant: _____

(B)

$$\frac{3(14 + 5)}{6}$$

Numbers? ☐
Operations? ☐
Variables? ☐

[YES | NO]

Coefficient: _____

Constant: _____

(C)

$$2 - 3xy$$

Numbers? ☐
Operations? ☐
Variables? ☐

[YES | NO]

Coefficient: _____

Constant: _____

(D)

$$9x = 18$$

Numbers? ☐
Operations? ☐
Variables? ☐

[YES | NO]

Coefficient: _____

Constant: _____

Note: When expressions have an ____ symbol between them, it forms an **equation**.

Evaluating Algebraic Expressions

- Just like with numbers, you'll often have to +, -, ×, ÷ variables when given their exact values.
 - This is called **evaluating** an expression: _____ given values for variable(s) & use **PEMDAS**.

EXAMPLE: Evaluate the algebraic expressions when $x = 3$

(A)

$$2x + 5$$

(B)

$$- \frac{2(8 - x)}{4x}$$

ORDER OF OPERATIONS

Parentheses
Exponents
Multiply/Divide
Add/Subtract

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PRACTICE: Evaluate the algebraic expression when $x = 4$ and $y = -5$.

$$2y - x(3 + y)$$

ORDER OF OPERATIONS

Parentheses
Exponents
Multiply/Divide
Add/Subtract

PRACTICE: Evaluate the algebraic expression when $x = -3$ and $y = 2$.

$$x(20 - 15y) - |2x + y|$$

Exponents in Expressions

- We use **exponents** to represent _____ multiplication.

$$\underbrace{4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4}_{5 \text{ times}} = \text{---} \quad \text{"--- to the --- power"}$$

$$x^3 =$$

"---"

- **Base**: _____ being multiplied
- **Exponent** or **Power**: number of _____ **base** is multiplied

General Form of Exponents

$$\underbrace{a \cdot a \cdot \dots \cdot a \cdot a}_{n \text{ times}} = \text{---} \quad \text{"a to the nth power"}$$

EXAMPLE: Evaluate the algebraic expression when $x = 2$ and $y = 5$.

(A) $-3x^4$

(B) $y^2 + 10^2$

(C) $(x^3 + 4y) - 7$

ORDER OF OPERATIONS

Parentheses
Exponents
Multiply/Divide
Add/Subtract

Caution!

Evaluate exponents BEFORE
doing other operations!

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Simplifying Algebraic Expressions

- We write long expressions in a simpler form by _____ the # of terms.

Term: Parts of expressions separated by or signs

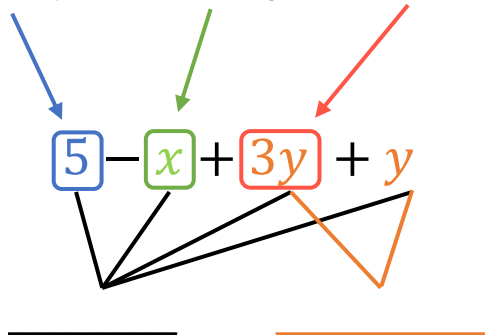
Like Terms: Terms with the same _____ to the same _____

$$4x + 6 - 3(x + 2)$$

↓
Simplifies to
↓

Terms in Expressions

Number only (*constant*) Variable only Number AND variable



EXAMPLE: Simplify the algebraic expression.

$$2x + 3 + 4(x + 2)$$

SIMPLIFYING ALG. EXPRESSIONS

- 1) _____ constants/variables into parentheses (if any)
- 2) _____ like terms by writing them next to each other
- 3) _____ like terms by adding/subtracting

PRACTICE: Simplify $-3(5 - x) + 10 - 7x$

PRACTICE: Simplify $-13 + 4x + x(9 - x)$

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PRACTICE: Simplify $3x + 14y - 7(-x + 2y)$

SIMPLIFYING ALG. EXPRESSIONS
1) Distribute constants/vars through parentheses
2) Group like terms
3) Combine like terms