

UNIT 6. Algebra

Algebraic expressions

Match each statement to its algebraic expression.

- a) The sum of a number and 3.
- b) The difference between a number and 5.
- c) Half of the sum of a number and 9.
- d) A third of the difference between a number and 7.

- i) $\frac{x+9}{2}$ ii) $x-5$ iii) $\frac{x-7}{3}$ iv) $x+3$

Find the numerical value of the following algebraic expressions for these values of x:

$x = 0$ $x = 1$ $x = 2$ $x = -1$ $x = 2$

- a) $3x - 2$ b) $5x + 4$ c) $7 - 2x$
- d) $-6x + 10$ e) $x^2 - 3x$ f) $2x - x$

Algebraic expressions

In an algebraic expression the letters represent unknown or indeterminate information.

Some examples of algebraic expressions:

$3x - 5$ $x^2 + 1$ $\frac{(a+1) \cdot b}{5}$ $\frac{(t+1)^2}{3}$ $\frac{a+b}{a}$

The numerical value is the result of the expression when the letters are replaced by known numbers.

For $a = 9$ and $b = 3$ $\rightarrow \frac{(a+1) \cdot b}{5} = \frac{(9+1) \cdot 3}{5} = 6$

Find the numerical value of these algebraic expressions when the variables x and y have the values: $x = 2$ $y = -3$

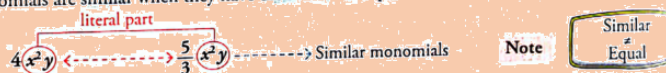
- a) $3x - 2y + 5$ b) $-x + 4y - 2$
- c) $(x - 2) \cdot (y + 8)$ d) $3 - 2x + 5 \cdot (y - 3)$

Monomials

A monomial is the product of a known number (coefficient) and one or more letters (literal part).



The degree of a monomial is the sum of the degrees of its letters.
Two monomials are similar when they have the same literal part (the same letters with the same exponent).



Indicate the coefficient, the literal part and the degree of these monomials

- a) $2a$ b) x^2 c) $-3ab$
- d) $\frac{1}{2}xy^3$ e) $-4x$ f) $6x^3y$
- g) xy h) $-abc$ i) $-3ab$
- j) $-\frac{3}{5}ax^2z$ k) x^2yz l) $2 - x$

Operations with monomials

Adding and subtracting monomials

Only similar monomials can be added or subtracted.

$5x - 3x = 2x$ Can be calculated $x^2 + x$ Cannot be calculated

Multiplying monomials

The product of two or more monomials is another monomial:

$(3a) \cdot (2b) = 3 \cdot a \cdot 2 \cdot b = 3 \cdot 2 \cdot a \cdot b = 6ab$
 $(-3x) \cdot 4x = (-3) \cdot x \cdot 4 \cdot x = (-3) \cdot 4 \cdot x \cdot x = -12x^2$

Dividing monomials

To divide, we use what we know about calculating with numbers, and we can get:

$3x : 6x = \frac{3 \cdot x}{6 \cdot x} = \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{x}{x} = \frac{3}{2} \cdot 1 = \frac{3}{2}$ a number

$(-15ab^2) : 3ab = \frac{3 \cdot (-5) \cdot a \cdot b \cdot b}{3 \cdot a \cdot b} = -5b$ a monomial

$(-15a^2b) : (-6ab^2) = \frac{(-3) \cdot 5 \cdot a \cdot a \cdot b}{(-3) \cdot 2 \cdot a \cdot b \cdot b} = \frac{5a}{2b}$ an algebraic fraction

The quotient is...

Perform the additions and subtractions of monomials:

- a) $2x + 3x$ b) $-4ab + 2ab$
- c) $-2x^2 - 4x^2$ d) $-5xy^2 + xy^2$
- e) $5x - 7y + 9x - y + 2y + x$
- f) $3x^2 + 6x - 7xy + 3xy - 2x^2$
- g) $-y^2 - 9x + x - 7y^2 + 5y^2 + 10$
- h) $ab - 4ab$ i) $2x - 10x$
- j) $-3x^2 - 8x^2$ k) $2x - 2xy$

Multiply or divide these monomials

- a) $2m \cdot (-3m)$ b) $4x^2 \cdot 2x$
- c) $3a \cdot 4b^2$ d) $5x \cdot (-xy)$
- e) $-2a^2 \cdot (-5a)$ f) $3xy \cdot (-2x^2)$
- g) $6x : 2x$ h) $(-8xy) : (-2x)$
- i) $(-2a^2bc^3) : (abc^2)$
- j) $15x^4 : (-5x^2)$ k) $48x^2y^3 : 6xy^2$

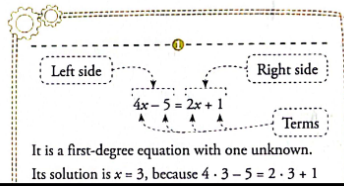
Equations

$3x - 4 = 8$ → The equality is only true for $x = 4$ → It is an equation
 $6x - 4x = 2x$ → The equality is true for any value of x → It is an identity

Elements of an equation

To work with equations we first have to know which are their terms:

- Sides: The expressions that appear on either side of the equal sign.
- Terms: The addends on either side of the equation.
- Unknowns: The letters that appear in the terms.
- Solutions: The values of the letters that make the equality true.



Determine which of these equations have $x = 2$ as a solution

- a) $4 - x = 6$ b) $5 - 2x = 9$
 c) $-x + 3 = 1 + x$ d) $6x - 4 = 4 + 5x$
 e) $3x + 7 = 1$ f) $8 = x - 3$

Draw a line to connect:

- $3x^2 + 2x = 1$ First degree equation with one unknown
 $-2x + 8 = 3x - 4x + 2$ Second degree equation with two unknowns
 $3x + y = 8 + 3x$ Second degree equation with one unknown

Speaking. Discuss as a group which of these equalities are equations and which are identities.

- a) $2 = x + 6$
 b) $5x - 3x = 2x$
 c) $7(9x - 1) + 6 = -3x - 1$
 d) $2(2x + 4) - 6 = 4x + 2$
 e) $3(4x - 2) + 7 = 7x - 19$
 f) $3x + 2x = (3 + 2)x$
 g) $5x - 3 = 4 - 7x$

Solving equations

EXAMPLE

6. Solve this linear equation.

$$2x - 4 = 10$$

The 4, which is subtracting in the first member, goes to the other member and is added to it.

$$2x - 4 = 10 \rightarrow 2x = 10 + 4 \rightarrow 2x = 14$$

The 2, which is multiplying in the first member, goes to the other member and divides it.

$$2x = 14 \rightarrow x = \frac{14}{2} = 7$$

Solve the equations and verify the solution.

- a) $4x + 1 = 5x - 8$ e) $-7 + 3y = y - 3$
 b) $5 + 6x = -4 - 3x$ f) $-8x + 6 = -1 - x$
 c) $10y - 3y + 3 = -18$ g) $12 = 5x - 9 - 2x$
 d) $-x - 5 = 3x + 19$ h) $30 + 8y = -7y$

Solve these equations.

- a) $x + 7 = 9$
 b) $4x - 12 = 3x$
 c) $x - 5 = 2x - 4$
 d) $3x - 5 = -5 - 7x$

- a) $x + 2 = 5$ e) $c - 7 = 12$
 b) $4 + y = 8$ f) $20 = -y + 4$
 c) $11 = z + 7$ g) $-3 + b = 7$
 d) $-2 + a = 2$ h) $6 - c = 9$

Solve these linear equations.

- a) $x - 6 = 2$
 b) $6x = -6$
 c) $3 - x = 1$
 d) $3x + 2 = 11$
 e) $5x - 2 = 3$
 f) $10x - 2 = -22$

Solve these equations and check the solution

- a) $-3x - 2 = 7$
 b) $3x + 12 = -9 - 4x$
 c) $-2 + x = 4x - 2 - 6 - x$
 d) $1 - x = 6$
 e) $3x + 6 = 3$
 f) $-x - 5 + 2x = -10 + 5x + 9$
 g) $-2 - 2x = -4$
 h) $-3x = -5x + 8 + 6$

- a) $2x + 7 = 3$ e) $-4 + 3a = 5$
 b) $16 = -5 + 7b$ f) $5 - 4y = 1$
 c) $6 = -2x$ g) $-5 = -c - 3$
 d) $-3a - 8 = 4$ h) $-6z - 9 = 15$

More equations

KNOW HOW TO

Solve equations with brackets

Solve this linear equation that contains brackets.

$$4 \cdot (x - 6) - 2 = 5 - 3 \cdot (x + 1)$$

Follow these steps

1. Expand the brackets.

$$4 \cdot (x - 6) - 2 = 5 - 3 \cdot (x + 1)$$

$$4x - 24 - 2 = 5 - 3x - 3$$

2. Group the terms with the unknown in one member and the numerical terms in the other.

Group all terms with unknowns in the first member.

$$4x + 3x = 5 - 3 + 24 + 2$$

$$7x = 28$$

3. Simplify the similar terms, if there are any.

The 7, which is multiplying in the first member, goes to the second member and divides it.

$$x = \frac{28}{7} = 4$$

The solution of the equation is $x = 4$.

If the bracket is preceded by the sign $-$, when expanding it, we invert all the signs of the addends inside the bracket.

$$3 - 2(x + 1) = 3 - 2x - 2$$

$$3 - 2(x - 1) = 3 - 2x + 2$$

- a) $6 \cdot (a - 5) - 2 = 2a$ e) $3 - (b + 4) = 0$
 b) $-4 \cdot (3 - x) + 9 = x$ f) $9c - 5 \cdot (c - 1) = 1$
 c) $(4 + 3x) \cdot (-7) + 2 = -8x$ g) $3 - 2 \cdot (y - 4) = 11$
 d) $5a = 2 \cdot (6 - 3a) + 21$ h) $16 - 4y = 5 - 7(2 - 3y)$

- a) $2x + 4 \cdot (5 - 2x) = 8$ d) $6x + 5 \cdot (2 - 3x) = 4$
 b) $7x - 3 \cdot (x + 1) = -1$ e) $x - 3 \cdot (x - 2) = 10$
 c) $5x - 3 \cdot (9 - x) = -3$ f) $2x + 7 \cdot (x + 4) = 19$

VOCABULARY & EXPRESSIONS

Algebraic expression → expresión algebraica	Solve, perform, compute, calculate → resolver/calcular
Letter → letra	Multiplication → multiplicación
Mathematical operations → operaciones matemáticas	Multiply → multiplicar
Numerical value → valor numérico	Division → división
Substitute the letters → sustituir las letras	Divide → dividir
Plus, minus → más, menos	Multiplied by → multiplicado por
Sum → suma	Divided by → dividido entre
Difference → diferencia	Equation → ecuación
Twice, triple → doble, triple	Members → miembros
Half, third part → mitad, tercera parte	Terms → términos
Square of → cuadrado de	Unknowns → incógnitas
Monomial → monomio	Solution → solución
Coefficiente → coeficiente	Check the solution → comprobar la solución
Literal part → parte literal	Make the equality true → hacer la igualdad cierta
Variable → variable	Solve an equation → resolver una ecuación
Degree of the monomial → grado del monomio	Equation of degree one → ecuación de grado 1
Similar monomials → monomios semejantes	Linear equation → ecuación lineal
Addition → suma	Equation with brackets → ecuación con paréntesis
Add → sumar	
Subtraction → resta	
Subtract → restar	
Equal to → igual a	

INVESTIGATE

Below we explain a game for two people.

Play it, study the results and explain the winning strategy!!!

The game begins by placing a token on the **START** position. When it is a player's turn, they move the token to one of the adjacent spots below. The player who gets the token to the **FINISH** position first wins.

HELP:

- Play several times.
- Try it with boards that have fewer points.
- From what positions are you guaranteed to win?
- Do you prefer to start first or second?

