

1-1 Variables and Expressions



Lesson 1

Algebra I - Unit 1

Variables are symbols used to represent unspecified numbers or values.

An **Expression** consists of one or more numbers and variables along with one or more arithmetic operations.

Here are some examples:



What mathematical operation is represented below?

xy

$x \cdot y$

$x(y)$

$(x)y$

$(x)(y)$

In each expression, the quantities being multiplied are called and the result is called the .



Example 1:

Write an algebraic expression for each verbal expression.

- *Eight more than a number.*
- *The difference of 7 and 4 times a number x .*
- *One third of the size of the original area a .*



$$x^n$$

The variable x is called the and n is called the

The exponent indicates the number of times the base is used as a



Example 2:

Write each expression algebraically.

- *The product of 7 and m to the fifth power.*
- *The difference of 4 and x squared.*



To **evaluate** an expression means to find its value.

Example 3:

Evaluate each expression.

2^6

4^3



Example 4:

Write a verbal expression for each algebraic expression.

$4m^3$

$c^2 + 21d$

5^3



Classwork:

Page 8, # 1-10



Check for Understanding

Concept Check

1. Explain the difference between an algebraic expression and a verbal expression.
2. Write an expression that represents the perimeter of the rectangle. **Sample answer:** $2\ell + 2w$
3. **OPEN ENDED** Give an example of a variable to the fifth power. **Sample answer:** a^5



4–5. Sample answers are given.

Write an algebraic expression for each verbal expression.

4. the sum of j and 13 **$j + 13$**
5. 24 less than three times a number
 $3x - 24$

Evaluate each expression.

6. 9^2 **81**
7. 4^4 **256**

Write a verbal expression for each algebraic expression.

8. $4m^4$ **the product of 4 and m to the fourth power**
9. $\frac{1}{2}n^3$ **one half of n cubed**

Application

10. **MONEY** Lorenzo bought several pounds of chocolate-covered peanuts and gave the cashier a \$20 bill. Write an expression for the amount of change he will receive if p represents the cost of the peanuts. **$20 - p$**

1. Algebraic expressions include variables and numbers, while verbal expressions contain words.



Homework:

Page 8-9, # 11-37 odd

