



Introduction to Algebra: Vocabulary

Equation: a math sentence that states two quantities are equal

It will have an equal sign

$$3x - 4 = 7$$

The equation says: what is on the left ($3x - 4$) is equal to what is on the right (7)

Parts of an Equation

- **Variable:** a letter that represents a number we do not know yet

$$3x - 4 = 7$$

!!! Every variable has a coefficient

- **Coefficient:** the number attached to the variable

Can be positive or negative

- **Constant:** a number with no variable attached

Term - any of the following:

single number (constant)

i.e. $7, -2.1, \frac{1}{2}$

single variable

i.e. $m, -n$

the product of a number (coefficient) and variable(s).

i.e. $21a, -3b$

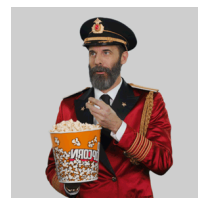
$$\mathbf{2k + 15 - m - 3 + n - 7p}$$

Terms: $2k, 15, -m, -3, n, -7p$

Variables: k, m, n, p

Coefficients: $2, -1, 1, -7$

Constants: $15, -3$



$$\mathbf{-8 - 4c + 7 - c - 12c - 2}$$

Terms: $-8, -4c, 7, -c, -12c, -2$

Variables: c

Coefficients: $-4, -1, -12$

Constants: $-8, 7, -2$

$$3x + 7y - z$$

Expression: a group of terms. Contains Constants, coefficients, and variables

DOES NOT contain an equal sign

Label the parts of the expression: *Coefficient, Constant, Variable*

1.

$$8y - 7 + 2y$$

coefficient variable constant

How many TERMS are present in this expression? 3 List them: 8y, -7, 2y

2.

$$m + 4 + 2 - 7m + 6$$

variable constant coefficient

How many TERMS are present in this expression? 5 List them: m, 4, 2, -7m, 6

$$-4a - 7b + 5 + c$$

Terms: $-4a, -7b, 5, c$

Variables: a, b, c

Coefficients: $-4, -7, 1$

Constants: 5

$$7 - 5h - 2 - k$$

Terms: $7, -5h, -2, -k$

Variables: h, k

Coefficients: $-5, -1$

Constants: $7, -2$

$$5 - 4x - 8y$$

Terms: $5, -4x, -8y$

Variables: x, y

Coefficients: $-4, -8$

Constants: 5

$$9k + 7 - k + 4$$

Terms: $9k, 7, -k, 4$

Variables: k

Coefficients: $9, -1$

Constants: $7, 4$