



## SKILL 10: Translating Words to Algebraic Expressions

A **variable** is a letter or other symbol that stands for a number. An **expression** is made up of numbers, variables, and/or operation symbols. Some words can be translated into specific mathematical or algebraic expressions.

Word	Definition	Expressions	
sum	The result of <b>adding</b> numbers	$7 + 2$	$8 + x$
difference	The result of <b>subtracting</b> numbers	$12 - 3$	$28 - y$
product	The result of <b>multiplying</b> numbers	$4 \times 16$	$8c$ or $8 \cdot c$
quotient	The result of <b>dividing</b> numbers	$81 \div 9$	$\frac{14}{5}$ or $14 \div 5$

To translate situations that don't use these words, you need to choose an operation that is appropriate for the situation. It may be easier to choose an operation if you first replace the variable with a number.

### Example

**Write an expression to answer: What is the quotient of 99 divided by  $x$ ?**

**Step 1** What operation is being done?

A quotient is the answer when dividing, so use division to write the expression.

**Step 2** Use the appropriate operation sign to write the expression.

$99 \div x$  or  $\frac{99}{x}$

The expressions  $99 \div x$  and  $\frac{99}{x}$  show the quotient of 99 divided by  $x$ .

### Guided Practice

**Write an expression to answer each question.**

1. What is 12 minus  $r$ ?

a. What operation is being done? \_\_\_\_\_

b. Write the expression. \_\_\_\_\_

2. What is 32 times as large as  $y$ ?

a. What operation is being done? \_\_\_\_\_

b. Write the expression. \_\_\_\_\_

3. What is  $g$  increased by 10?

a. What operation is being done? \_\_\_\_\_

b. Write the expression. \_\_\_\_\_

4. What is 24 more than  $n$ ? \_\_\_\_\_

5. What is 11 less than  $b$ ? \_\_\_\_\_

6. What is  $d$  divided by 5? \_\_\_\_\_

**SKILL 10: Practice**

Write the phrase as an expression.

- |                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. 12 more than $x$ _____    | 2. $x$ less than 36 _____     |
| 3. 2 times 23 _____          | 4. 17 times $s$ _____         |
| 5. $b$ multiplied by 5 _____ | 6. $y$ decreased by 10 _____  |
| 7. 64 plus $k$ _____         | 8. $u$ tripled _____          |
| 9. $p$ divided by 8 _____    | 10. 18 minus $x$ _____        |
| 11. 4 less than $k$ _____    | 12. $z$ increased by 12 _____ |

Write an expression to answer each question.

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| 13. What is the product of 82 and $g$ ?   | _____ |
| 14. What is the difference between $n$ and 7?   | _____ |
| 15. What is the quotient of 32 and $x$ ?  | _____ |
| 16. What is the sum of $h$ and 7?   | _____ |
| 17. Carolyn makes $t$ batches of 12 cookies.<br>How many cookies did she make?              | _____ |
| 18. A jar holds $n$ ounces of jam. How many<br>jars are needed for 100 ounces of jam?       | _____ |
| 19. Brian had $p$ pencils. Then he bought 4 more.<br>How many does he have now?             | _____ |
| 20. Tammy plants 6 rows of $t$ tomato plants each.<br>How many tomato plants did she plant? | _____ |



21. Which expression means  $d$  less than 17?
- Skill 10*
- |            |               |
|------------|---------------|
| A $d - 17$ | C $d \div 17$ |
| B $17 - d$ | D $17 \div d$ |

22. Simplify:  $7 \cdot 6 - 7 \cdot 2$ .
- Skill 9*
- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| F 70 | H 28  |
| G 38 | J -14 |