

Writing Algebraic Expressions TEKS A.3.A, A.3.B

To solve a problem using algebra, you often need to write a phrase as an algebraic expression.

EXAMPLE Write the phrase as an algebraic expression.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>a. 6 less than a number</p> <p>“Less than” indicates subtraction.</p> <p>▶ $n - 6$</p> | <p>b. The cube of a number</p> <p>“Cube” indicates raising to the third power.</p> <p>▶ n^3</p> | <p>c. Double a number</p> <p>“Double” indicates multiplication by 2.</p> <p>▶ $2n$</p> |
|---|---|--|

EXAMPLE Write an algebraic expression to answer the question.

- a. Rebecca walks three times as far to school as Meghan does. If Meghan walks m blocks to school, how many blocks to school does Rebecca walk?
- ▶ $3m$
- b. Kate is 8 inches taller than Noah. If Noah is n inches tall, how tall is Kate?
- ▶ $n + 8$

PRACTICE

Write the phrase as an algebraic expression.

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. 8 more than a number | 2. 10 times a number | 3. Twice a number |
| 4. 6 less than a number | 5. One fifth of a number | 6. 4 greater than a number |
| 7. 5 times a number | 8. A number squared | 9. 25% of a number |
| 10. Half a number | 11. 2 less than a number | 12. The square root of a number |

Write an algebraic expression to answer the question.

- Allison is 4 years younger than her sister Camille. If Camille is c years old, how old is Allison?
- Ryan bought a movie ticket for x dollars. He paid with a \$20 bill. How much change should Ryan get?
- Bridget spent \$5 more than Tom spent at the mall. If Tom spent x dollars, how much did Bridget spend?
- Marc has twice as many baseball cards as hockey cards. If Marc has h hockey cards, how many baseball cards does he have?
- Elizabeth's ballet class is 45 minutes long. If Elizabeth is m minutes late for ballet class, how many minutes will she spend in class?
- Steve drove x miles per hour for 5 hours. How many miles did Steve drive?
- Wendy bought 10 pens priced at x dollars each. How much did she spend?