

Algebra Basics

Content

•	A <u>variable</u> or an <u>unknown</u> is a letter used to represent a number, these can take any values.	To simplify an expression, you collect together all the terms that are alike. Remember, each term comes with the sign in front of it.
•	An expression is made up numbers and/or letters representing unknown values where there is no equals symbol. For example, $4a + 6$ or $a + b$.	Examples: Simplify the following
•	<u>Terms</u> are the separate parts of expressions. For example, in $5x + 3y - 4$, there are three terms $5x$, $+3y$ and -4 .	1) $x + x + x + x + x = 5x$
	• - We to the second second of the second shifts of a second state of the	2) 5e - 2e + e = 4e
•	Coefficients are the numbers in front of the variable, for example in 6x the coefficient is 6 and in -7y ² it is -7.	3) $4x + 2y - x + 5y + 6 = 3x + 7y + 6$
		4) $3x^2 + 5x + 2x^2 - 4x = 5x^2 + x$
		5) 5 x 4g = 20g
		6) 3b x 4c = 12bc

Linked Prior Topics	Vocabulary	Linked Future Topics
Times tables, addition and	Variable, unknown, expression, term, coefficient,	Substitution, solving equations
subtraction	simplify	and formulae