MATH

Writing expressions



Name _____ Date _____

🎯 **I can write an expression from words and say an expression in words.**

1 How it works 💡

An expression is numbers and operation signs with no equal sign, like (8 + 7) × 2. To write one from words, find the numbers and the operations. Words like sum and total mean +, difference means −, product and times mean ×, and divided by means ÷. If something must be done first, put it in parentheses.

Add 8 and 7, then multiply by 2

$$(8 + 7) \times 2$$

$$= 15 \times 2 = 30$$

2 Write an expression, then solve it ✏️

1. Multiply 3 by 6, then subtract 3. ____ = ____
2. Add 12 and 9, then multiply by 3. ____ = ____
3. Add 4 to the product of 8 and 7. ____ = ____
4. Divide 14 by 2, then add 12. ____ = ____
5. 12 more than the product of 7 and 9 ____ = ____
6. Subtract 9 from 27, then divide by 3. ____ = ____

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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From numbers to words

Name _____ Date _____

I can say what an expression means in words.

1 Write the expression in words, then solve it

1. $2 \times (3 - 2)$ _____ = ☐

2. $4 \times (3 + 8)$ _____ = ☐

3. $2 \times 30 + 3$ _____ = ☐

4. $(14 + 16) \div 2$ _____ = ☐

2 Which expression matches? Circle it.

1. Multiply 8 by 7, then subtract 2.
   - $8 \times 7 + 2$
   - $8 \times 7 - 2$
   - $8 \times (7 - 2)$

2. Add 6 and 5, then multiply by 4.
   - $(6 + 5) \times 4$
   - $6 \times 5 + 4$
   - $6 + 5 \times 4$

3. Add 2 to the product of 4 and 9.
   - $2 + 4 \times 9$
   - $2 \times 4 + 9$
   - $(2 + 4) \times 9$

4. Divide 24 by 3, then add 3.
   - $24 \div (3 + 3)$
   - $24 \div 3 + 3$
   - $24 \times 3 + 3$

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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Words and expressions

Name _____ Date _____

🎯 **I can tell which words mean which operation.**

1 Sort the words

Write each word under its sign.

sum	difference	product	divided by	times
more than	less than	twice	half of	total

+	−	×	÷

3 Think about it

1. Write "3 more than 5 times 4" as an expression.
2. Is "the sum of 6 and 2, times 3" the same as 6 + 2 × 3?
3. Write an expression that equals 20 using × and +.
4. What does "twice the sum of 7 and 3" equal?

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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Word problems

Name _____ Date _____

I can write one expression for a problem and solve it.

1 Read, write an expression, solve

Show your expression in the box.

1 Noor bakes 3 trays of 12 cookies and 8 more cookies. Write one expression for the total, then solve it.

Answer:

2 Ben buys 4 gift packs. Each pack has a $6 book and a $3 pen. Write one expression for the total cost, then solve it.

Answer:

3 Without calculating, how does 5 × (138 + 47) compare to 138 + 47?

Answer:

4 Noor says 2 × 8 + 5 and 2 × (8 + 5) are the same. Is Noor right? Show why.

Answer:

How did I do?

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FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: writing expressions

1 Page 1

Expressions: 1) 3 × 6 − 3 = 15; 2) (12 + 9) × 3 = 63; 3) 4 + 8 × 7 = 60; 4) 14 ÷ 2 + 12 = 19; 5) 7 × 9 + 12 = 75; 6) (27 − 9) ÷ 3 = 6.

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1) 2 times the difference of 3 and 2: 2 (other wordings are fine)
2) 4 times the sum of 3 and 8: 44 (other wordings are fine)
3) Double 30, then add 3: 63 (other wordings are fine)
4) Half of the sum of 14 and 16: 15 (other wordings are fine)
Matches: 1) 8 × 7 − 2; 2) (6 + 5) × 4; 3) 2 + 4 × 9; 4) 24 ÷ 3 + 3.

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Sort: + sum, more than, total; − difference, less than; × product, times, twice; ÷ divided by, half of.
Think: 1) 5 × 4 + 3; 2) No. It is (6 + 2) × 3 = 24, not 12; 3) For example 4 × 4 + 4 or (3 + 2) × 4; 4) 2 × (7 + 3) = 20.

4 Page 4: word problems

1) 3 × 12 + 8 = 44 cookies
2) 4 × (6 + 3) = $36
3) It is 5 times as large.
4) No. 2 × 8 + 5 = 21, but 2 × (8 + 5) = 26.

5 Teaching tip 💡

"Add 8 and 7, then multiply by 2" and "8 plus 7 times 2" sound alike but are different. Have children say their expression back in words to check it matches.

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