Writing Expressions
With Variables #1

An expression in math is a sentence containing numbers and the operations. Below are examples of expressions:

$2 + 3$ $17 - 16 + 2$ $\dfrac{2}{5} \times \dfrac{6}{6}$

6 $(3 \times 5) - (6 \times 2)$ $y - 20$

A variable represents the unknown number in the expression or equation. For example, $4 \times t = 12$. The letter " t " represents the number which multiplies by 4 to equal 12.

Read the sentences below and write an expression. See the example.

Robin has 10 chocolates and Martin has m chocolates. Write an expression of chocolates that Martin and Robin have together.

Robin has   10
Martin has m

The expression is $10 + m$

Bobby grows 20 carrots and Tommy grows k carrots. Write the expression of carrots that both Bobby and Tommy have.

Julie has 7 jelly beans. She gave y jelly beans to Susie. Write the expression of jelly beans that she has left.

Sally ate 2 pieces of cake in the morning and n pieces in the evening. Write the expression for the amount of cake she had today.

Ronny had 12 paper clips. He lost p of them. Write the expression of paper clips Ronny has left.