

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Basic Algebra Vocabulary

In algebra, a **variable** is an unknown quantity. It is often represented by a letter. With a red crayon, circle the variables (or unknown amount) in each of the expressions below.

$6 + x$

$y - 9$

$8z$

$\frac{16}{v}$

A **constant** is a quantity with a value that does not change. It is usually represented by a number. With a blue crayon, circle the constants (or numerical amounts) in each of the expressions below.

$4n$

$\frac{9}{d}$

$m - 2$

$5 + a$

An **expression** is a mathematical statement that uses symbols, numbers, or mathematical symbols. Below each expression, write the variables, constants, or mathematical symbols used in the expression.



# ~ PREVIEW ~

Please log in or register to download the printable version of this worksheet.

Below each expression, write the variables, constants, or mathematical symbols used in the expression.

An **equation** is a mathematical statement that uses an equal sign to show that two or more expressions are equal. Tell whether each item below is an equation or expression.

$9 - n = 15$

$\frac{9}{b}$

$2c = 4$

$8 + a$

$2 + x = 12 + 7$

Is the mathematical statement shown above an equation or an expression? \_\_\_\_\_

How many variables are in this statement? \_\_\_\_\_ How many constants? \_\_\_\_\_

# ANSWER KEY

## Basic Algebra Vocabulary

In algebra, a **variable** is an unknown quantity. It is often represented by a letter. With a red crayon, circle the variables (or unknown amount) in each of the expressions below.

$6 + \textcircled{x}$

$\textcircled{y} - 9$

$8 \textcircled{z}$

$\frac{16}{\textcircled{v}}$

A **constant** is a quantity with a value that does not change. It is usually represented by a number. With a blue crayon, circle the constants (or numerical amounts) in each of the expressions below.

$\textcircled{4}n$

$\frac{\textcircled{9}}{d}$

$m - \textcircled{2}$

$\textcircled{5} + a$

An **expression** is a mathematical statement that uses symbols. Below each expression, write the operation used (addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division).



symbols. Write the operation used (addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division).

**subtraction**

**multiplication**

**addition**

**division**

An **equation** is a mathematical statement that uses an equal sign to show that two or more expressions are equal. Tell whether each item below is an equation or expression.

$9 - n = 15$

$\frac{9}{b}$

$2c = 4$

$8 + a$

**equation**

**expression**

**equation**

**expression**

$$2 + x = 12 + 7$$

Is the mathematical statement shown above an equation or an expression? **equation**

How many variables are in this statement? **1**

How many constants? **3**