Write Expressions with Variables

Study the example showing how to write an expression from words. Then solve problems 1–10.

Example

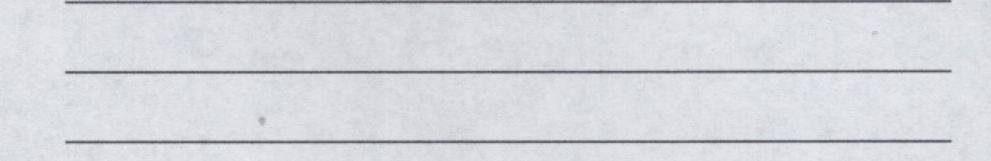
Write an expression with the same meaning as "add a number times 2 to 5."

Find operation words to help you write the expression. *Add* a number times 2 to 5. This expression will be an addition of two terms.

First term Second term

The first term is 5. The second term is 2x. So the expression is 5 + 2x.

- What does the variable x in the example represent?
- The number 2 in the expression 5 + 2x is called the coefficient of x. How does changing the coefficient to 6 change the meaning of the expression?
- In the expression, 5 + 2x, how is the first term different from the second term?



- Write an expression for each word phrase.
 - a. Multiply 4 by a number and then subtract 5.
 - **b.** 15 more than half a number



Vocabulary

variable a letter that stands for an unknown number.

is a known number without variables.

coefficient a factor of a variable term that is a known number. The coefficient of the term 4x is 4.

Solve.

5	Connie says an expression for the phrase "10 more than the square of a number" is $x^2 + 10$. Sharon says it is $10x^2$. Who is correct? Explain.
6	Write an expression for each word phrase. a. 5 less than the quotient of a number and 2
	b. 5 minus the quotient of a number and 2
7	How are the expressions that you wrote in problem 6 similar? How are they different?
8	Write a word phrase for the expression 16 \div (x + 4).
9	Write an expression with two terms. One term should have a coefficient with a variable and the other term should be a constant. Name the coefficient, the variable, and the constant in the expression. Then write a word phrase for your expression.
10	Mario says that the expression $4 + 3n^2$ has four terms: 4, 3, n , and 2. Is he correct? Explain.

