

Letter-symbols – using a letter for an unknown

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

We use a **letter** to stand for an unknown number. The letter is a placeholder until we figure out the value.

→ $n + 5 = 12$. The letter n stands for 7 (because $7 + 5 = 12$).

→ $3a = 21$. The letter a stands for 7 (because $3 \times 7 = 21$).

ANSWER KEY

a) $n = 7 (12 - 5)$.

Q1: 20

b) $a = 7 (10 - 3)$.

Q2: 17

c) $k = 8 (15 - 7)$.

Q3: 16

d) $x = 7 (14 \div 2)$.

Q4: 22

EXTENSION SHEET · STRETCH ANSWERS

S1: 19

S3: 26

S2: 32