

Writing expressions from word situations

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

A letter stands for a number we do not know yet. The same letter always means the same value in one problem.

→ 3 more than a number b is $b + 3$.

→ The cost of g apples at 30c each is $30g$.

MODEL THIS ON THE BOARD

TURN THE SITUATION INTO AN EXPRESSION

- 1 Find the operation word like 'more' or 'less'.
- 2 Write the letter for the unknown number.
- 3 Add the sign and the known number, watching the order.

ANSWER KEY

a) $b + 3$

b) $10 - k$

c) $12n$

Q1: $b + 3$

Q2: $10 - k$

Q3: $40g$

Q4: $12n$

Q5: $d - 3$

a) Always — The rule says the same letter means the same value.

b) Never — More than means we add.

c) Always — Any letter can stand for the unknown.

d) Always — A number less than 10 is 10 minus the number.

EXTENSION SHEET · STRETCH ANSWERS

S1: 64

S2: 32

S3: 15

S4: 17

S5: 94