# Terms, Factors, and Coefficients

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 24

## Quick Review

The parts of an expression have names. A **term** is a single number or variable, or numbers and variables multiplied together — terms are separated by $+$ or $-$ signs. In $5x + 3$, the terms are $5x$ and $3$. The **coefficient** is the number multiplied by a variable, so in $5x$ the coefficient is $5$. The number $3$ on its own is called a **constant**. **Factors** are the things multiplied together to make a term: the factors of $5x$ are $5$ and $x$. Knowing these names helps you describe and work with expressions clearly.

◇ **Example:** In the expression $7y + 4$, name the terms, the coefficient, and the constant.
⇒ Let's look at where the $+$ sign splits the expression. That gives us two **terms**: $7y$ and $4$. Now look at $7y$ — it is a number multiplied by a variable, and that number, $7$, is the **coefficient**. The term $4$ has no variable attached, so it is the **constant**. Naming the parts is just careful reading once you know what to look for.

**Answer:** terms: $7y$ and $4$; coefficient: $7$; constant: $4$

## PRACTICE

*Identify the requested part of each expression.*

1. Coefficient of $8x$ _____
2. Coefficient of $3m$ _____
3. Coefficient of $y$ _____
4. Number of terms in $4x + 9$ _____
5. Number of terms in $6a + 2b - 5$ _____
6. Constant in $7n + 12$ _____
7. Constant in $9 + 5k$ _____
8. Coefficient of $15p$ _____
9. Factors of $6x$ _____
10. Factors of $9t$ _____
11. Number of terms in $10$ _____
12. Coefficient of $2.5w$ _____
13. Number of terms in $x + y + z + 4$ _____
14. Constant in $3a + 6b + 11$ _____
15. Coefficient of $\frac{1}{2}n$ _____
16. Variable term in $4 + 7g$ _____
17. Number of terms in $8m - 3n$ _____
18. Coefficient of $100x$ _____
19. Factors of $12ab$ _____
20. Constant in $5x + 2y + 8 - 3$ _____

### Word Problems

21. A school store sells pencils for $2$ dollars each. The expression $2p + 5$ gives the total cost, where $5$ is a membership fee. What is the coefficient of $p$, and what does it represent? _____

22. The expression $3w + 4w$ describes a project's total hours. How many terms does it have, and what are the coefficients? _____

23. A recipe expression is written as $8c + 3$, where $c$ is the number of cups. Name the constant and explain what it could mean. _____

24. In the expression $6h + 9k - 2$, how many terms are there, and which term is the constant? _____



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# Answer Keys

1. $8$
2. $3$
3. $1$
4. $2$
5. $3$
6. $12$
7. $9$
8. $15$
9. $6$ and $x$
10. $9$ and $t$
11. $1$
12. $2.5$
13. $4$
14. $11$
15. $\frac{1}{2}$
16. $7g$
17. $2$
18. $100$
19. $12$, $a$, and $b$
20. $5$
21. Coefficient is $2$; the price per pencil
22. $2$ terms; coefficients $3$ and $4$
23. Constant is $3$
24. $3$ terms; constant is $2$

## Step-by-Step Explanations

**1.** The coefficient is the number multiplied by the variable, which is $8$.
**2.** In $3m$, the number $3$ multiplies the variable, so the coefficient is $3$.
**3.** When a variable stands alone, its coefficient is $1$, since $y = 1y$.
**4.** The $+$ sign separates two terms: $4x$ and $9$.
**5.** The terms are $6a$, $2b$, and $5$ — that is $3$ terms.
**6.** The constant is the term with no variable, which is $12$.
**7.** The number $9$ has no variable attached, so it is the constant.
**8.** The number multiplying $p$ is $15$, so that is the coefficient.
**9.** The factors of $6x$ are the things multiplied together: $6$ and $x$.
**10.** $9t$ is $9$ multiplied by $t$, so its factors are $9$ and $t$.
**11.** A single number is one term all by itself.
**12.** A coefficient can be a decimal: here it is $2.5$.
**13.** Each piece separated by $+$ is a term: $x$, $y$, $z$, and $4$.
**14.** The only term without a variable is $11$, the constant.
**15.** A coefficient can be a fraction — here it is $\frac{1}{2}$.
**16.** The term $7g$ contains a variable, while $4$ is just a constant.
**17.** The $-$ sign separates two terms: $8m$ and $3n$.
**18.** The number multiplying $x$ is $100$.
**19.** $12ab$ is $12$, $a$, and $b$ all multiplied together.
**20.** The constants $8$ and $3$ combine: $8 - 3 = 5$, so the constant is $5$.
**21.** The coefficient of $p$ is $2$, and it tells us each pencil costs $2$ dollars. The $5$ is the constant membership fee.
**22.** The $+$ sign separates two terms, $3w$ and $4w$. Their coefficients are $3$ and $4$.
**23.** The constant is $3$ — the term with no variable. It could be a fixed amount, like $3$ extra cups added no matter what.
**24.** The terms are $6h$, $9k$, and $2$, so there are $3$ terms. The constant is $2$, since it has no variable.

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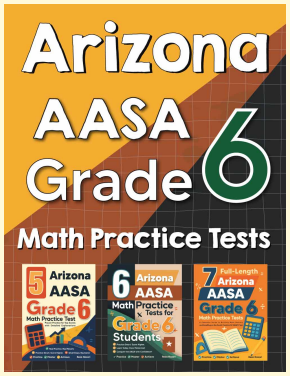


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