

Got Class?

Understanding Variables

These variables represent information about a particular class at a school:

- n = number of students in the class
- m = number of students in the class whose birthdays are in May
- d = number of students in the class whose birthdays are in December
- t = number of hours of class each week
- w = number of weeks of class each year

Tell me what each of the following expressions represents.

1. $n - m$

2. $m + d$

3. $(t / w) \cdot n / 100$

4. tn

5. $tn/2$

Write an expression for each of the following.

- 6. the number of students whose birthdays are not in December
- 7. the number of minutes of classes each week
- 8. the percentage of students whose birthdays are in May

Write an equation that says ...

- 9. the number of students with birthdays in May is 4 more than the number of students with birthdays in December.
- 10. the number of students with birthdays in May is 10% of all students.

Translate each equation into words. Then make a table of values showing 4 pairs of values that fit the equation.

11. $n = d + 4$

12. $d = 2n$

Tell whether the two expressions in each pair are equivalent. Explain why or why not.