

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
- h = 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. $(d / n) \times 100$
4. hw
5. $n/5$

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. $n = d + 15$
12. $d = 2m$

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