

# TRANSLATING SIMPLE MATHEMATICAL PHRASES



[\(more mathematical cats\)](#)

## EXAMPLES:

Translate each of the following phrases into a mathematical expression:

The sum of a number and 3 :	$x + 3$
The product of a number and 3 :	$3x$
The sum of two numbers:	$x + y$
Three times the sum of two numbers:	$3(x + y)$
Three times a number:	$3x$
Three less than a number:	$x - 3$
A number, less 3 :	$x - 3$
Three more than a number:	$x + 3$
A number, plus 3 :	$x + 3$
The square of a number:	$x^2$
The square of three times a number:	$(3x)^2$
Three times the square of a number:	$3x^2$
One-third of a number:	$\frac{x}{3}$ or $\frac{1}{3}x$
One less than 3 times a number:	$3x - 1$
Two more than 5 times a number:	$5x + 2$ or $2 + 5x$
The square of the sum of two numbers:	$(x + y)^2$
The sum of the squares of two numbers:	$x^2 + y^2$