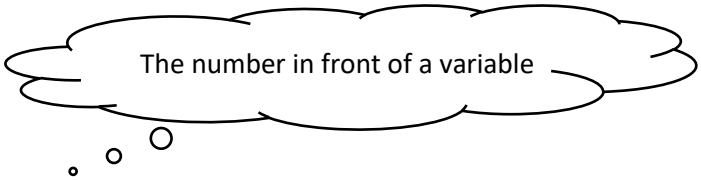
Like terms:

- Same variables
- Same exponents
- Order doesn't matter

LIKE TERMS	$3x$ and $2x$	w and $\frac{w}{7}$	5 and 1.4
UNLIKE TERMS	$5x^2$ and $2x$	$6a$ and $6b$	3.2 and x

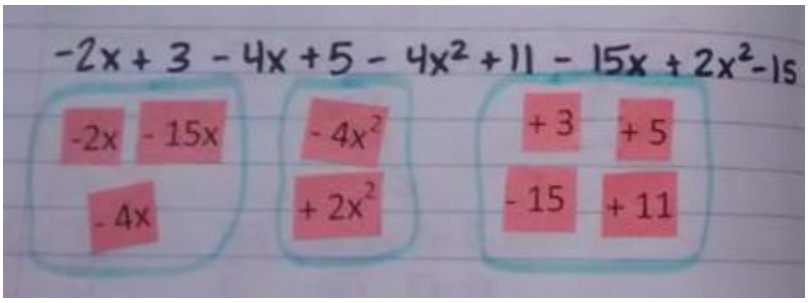


- To combine like terms, add or subtract the **coefficient** and keep the variables/exponents the same

- If the coefficient is missing, it is always a positive or negative one (the invisible 1). Coefficients take the sign <u>in front</u> of them.

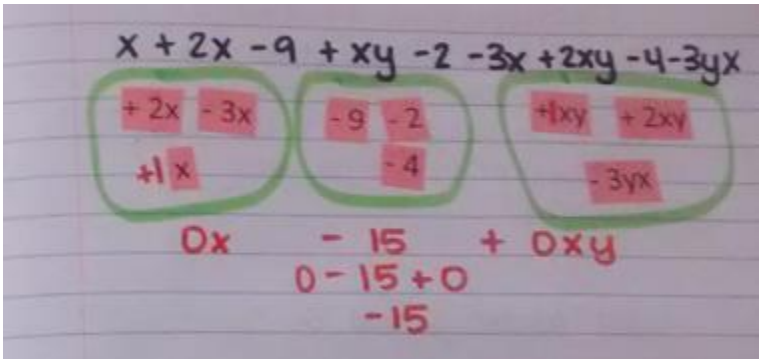
* We normal write the terms in order with the variables in alphabetical order with the terms with the greatest exponent first and the constant last

Example 1

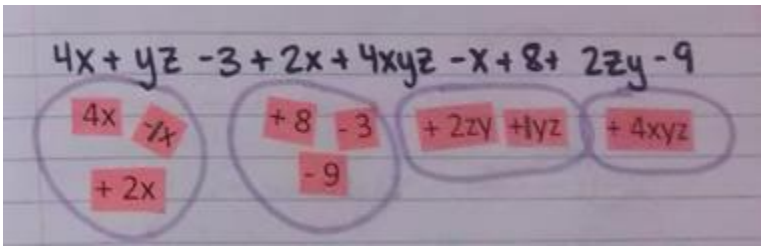


$-2x^2 - 21x + 4$

Example 2



Example 3



$5x + 4xyz + 3yz - 4$