Name: _____   Date: _____

Evaluating Variable Expressions

Remember that a variable stands for a number!

To evaluate an algebraic expression:

1. write the algebraic expression

2. **REPLACE** each variable by the selected value given in the problem.

3. Calculate according to the order of operations "BEDMAS"

Example 1

$5x+14$ where $x=10$

Remember this means 5 times x, by replacing x with the number 10 it becomes

$=5(10)+14$

Now we use BEDMAS

$=50+14$

$=64$

Example 2

$9x-2y$, where $x=8$, $y=3$

Remember this means 9 times x and -2 times y, by replacing x with the number

8 and y with the number 3, it becomes:

$=9(8)-2(3)$

Now we use BEDMAS

$=72-6$

$=66$