Statements Translated into Algebraic Language
Using *X* as the Unknown

STATEMENT	ALGEBRA
1. Twice as much as the unknown	2x
2. Two less than the unknown	x-2
3. Five more than the unknown	x+5
4. Three more than twice the unknown	2x+3
5. A number decreased by 7	x-7
6. Ten decreased by the unknown	10-x
7. Sheri's age (x) 4 years from now	x+4
8. Dan's age (x) 10 years ago	x-10
9. Number of cents in 2x dimes	10(2x)
10. Number of cents in x quarters	25x
11. Number of cents in x+5 nickels	5(x+5)
12. Separate 17 into two parts	x and 17-x
13. Distance traveled in x hours at 50 mph	50x
14. Two consecutive integers	x and x+1
15. Two consecutive even integers	x and x+2
16. Two consecutive odd integers	x and x+2
17. Interest on x dollars for 1 year at 5%	0.05x
18. $20,000 separated into two investments	x and 20,000-x
19. Distance traveled in 3 hours at x mph	3x
20. Distance traveled in 40 minutes at x mph (40 minutes = 2/3 of an hour)	2x/3
21. Sum of a number and 20	x+20
22. Product of a number and 3	3x
23. Quotient of a number and 8	x/8
24. Four times as much	4x
25. Three is four more than a number	3 = x+4

ADD	**SUBTRACT**	**MULTIPLY**	**DIVIDE**
sum	difference	product	quotient
add	subtract	times	ratio
more than	less than	twice	divided by
increased by	decreased by	percent of	into
plus	minus	multiply	
total			

Is, was, will be, become the equals sign (=) in algebra.

If 7 exceeds 2 by 5, then 7 – 2 = 5. *Exceeds* becomes a minus sign (–) and *by* becomes an equals sign (=).