

## Evaluating Algebraic Expressions

Variable - a letter used to represent a number

Coefficient - the number attached to the variable

$$3m$$

$$V = m \\ C = 3$$

$$1x$$

$$V = x \\ C = 1$$

$$-1y$$

$$V = y \\ C = -1$$

$$\frac{1}{2}x = \frac{1}{2} \cdot x \text{ OR } \frac{1}{2}x$$

$$V = x \\ C = \frac{1}{2}$$

Algebraic Expression - a combination of numbers and variables using addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, exponents and roots

$$18 - 3x$$

$$\sqrt{5 + 2x}$$

$$x^2 + 7x - 1$$

$$\frac{2x - 1}{13}$$

Directions: Evaluate each expression for  $a = -1$ ,  $b = -2$  and  $c = -3$ .

$$\begin{aligned} 1. \ a + (-b) &= a + (-1b) \\ &= (-1) + (-1 \cdot -2) \\ &= -1 + 2 \\ &= \boxed{1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2. \ a - (-c) &= +a + (+c) \\ a + c &= (-1) + (-3) = \boxed{-4} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3. \ -a + b &= -1a + b \\ &= -1(-1) + (-2) \\ &= 1 + (-2) \\ &= \boxed{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 4. \ -a - (-b) &= -a + (+b) \\ &= -a + b \\ &= -1a + b \\ &= -1(-1) + (-2) \\ &= 1 + (-2) \\ &= \boxed{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$5. c + (-b) + (-a) + b$$

$$\begin{aligned} & c + (-1)(b) \\ & -3 + (-1)(-2) \\ & -3 + 2 = -1 + (-1)(a) \\ & = -1 + (-1)(-1) \\ & = -1 + 1 \\ & = 0 + b \\ & = 0 + (-2) \\ & = \boxed{-2} \end{aligned}$$

$$6. \frac{ab}{-c} = \frac{ab}{-1 \cdot c} = \frac{(-1)(-2)}{(-1)(-3)}$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$7. \frac{2c}{a+b+c} = \frac{2(-3)}{(-1) + (-2) + (-3)} = \frac{-6}{-6} = \boxed{1}$$

$-3 + (-3) = -6$