Vocabulary for Algebraic Expressions

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| 3a + 4y - 6  “a” and “y” are the **variables**  **A *variable* is a letter or symbol that represents a number.** | 3a + 4y - 6  There are 3 **terms:** 3a, 4y and 6  **A *term* is either a single number or variable or the product of several numbers or variables, separated from another term by a plus or minus sign in an overall expression.** |
| 3a + 4y - 6   * 3 and 4 are **coefficients** * They explain how many of that variable the term contains   There are 3 a’s and 4 y’s  **A *coefficient* is the number before the variable that expresses how many of each variable there are.** | 3a + 4y - 6   * 6 is the **constant** * The value of the term 6 will always be 6 * The values of the other terms can change depending on the values assigned to the variables   **A *constant* is a value that does not change.** |
| 3(2 + 6)   * Can be described as the product of two factors: 3 and (2 + 6). (*A factor is one of the numbers that can be multiplied together to get the product)* * The quantity (2 + 6) is viewed as one factor consisting of two terms   *A* ***quantity*** *is a specified or indefinite amount of something.* |  |
| Additional Notes:  Guided Practice: | |
| Label the following parts in the algebraic expression:   1. Terms 2. Operations 3. Variables 4. Coefficients 5. Constant |  |
| True or False? | 3 (x + 4)  can be stated as both:  “the product of 3 and the sum of x and 4”  AND  “three times the quantity of x and 4” |