

## Math Signal Words

Often working on word problems is a difficult task because a student doesn't know how to translate the words in the problem into mathematical symbols. The following examples may help.

### Words that Signal Addition:

And, Made Larger, More Than, In Addition, Sum, Total, Added to, Plus, Add, Greater, Increased by, Raised by

Examples:

1. Thirty-six and eighty-six are what?

Translation:  $35 + 86 = (?)$

2. Three hundred sixteen increased by eight is what amount?

Translation:  $316 + 8 = (?)$

3. Ellen has sixteen candy bars to sell. If this amount is raised by twenty, how many will she have?

Translation:  $16 + 20 = (?)$

### Words that Signal Subtraction

Decreased by, Subtract, Difference, From, Less, Smaller by, Diminished by, Reduce, Less than, Minus, Take Away

Examples:

1. Eighty-nine is how much less than one hundred forty-seven?

Translation:  $147 - 89 = (?)$

2. Seventy-six decreased by sixteen is what?

Translation:  $76 - 16 = (?)$

3. Find the difference between 19 and 62.

Translation:  $62 - 19 = (?)$

4. Tommy has two hundred fifty-three baseball cards. If his collection is made smaller by thirty cards, how many will he have?

Translation:  $253 - 30 = (?)$

## Words that Signal

2. Seven percent of forty is what?

Translation: