Combining Like Terms Notes

Definitions

Coefficient: number in front of a variable or variables

⇒ Ex.) 3x
⇒ Ex.) 12xy
⇒ Ex.) 7m^2

*Every variable has a coefficient*
The coefficient of x is 1.
(Multiplicative Property)

Constant: stand alone number

⇒ Ex.) 3x + 10
⇒ Ex.) 12xy + 15.7
⇒ Ex.) 7m^2 - 19

Rules for Simplifying Expressions

Combine constants
Combine same variables
Pay attention to signs (+ or -) and exponents

Example: Simplify 10m + 2m