SIMPLIFY EXPRESSIONS  When plus or minus signs separate an algebraic expression into parts, each part is a term. The numerical part of a term that contains a variable is called the coefficient of the variable.

This expression has four terms.

\[ 2x + 8 + x + 3 \]

- 2 is the coefficient of 2x.
- 1 is the coefficient of x because \( x = 1x \).

Like terms are terms that contain the same variables, such as \( 2n \) and \( 5n \) or \( 6xy \) and \( 4xy \). A term without a variable is called a constant. Constant terms are also like terms.

Like terms.

\[ 5y + 3 + 2y + 8y \]

Constant