

Like Terms

① Regular integers (Constants)

② Variable terms

↳ must have a) the same variable

ex: $2a + 3a$
 $= 5a$

ex: $8a - 3a$
 $= 5a$

b) the same exponent

$3b^2 - 5b^2$
 $= -2b^2$

Not Like Terms

ex. 1)

$3b^2 - 5b$

2) $2a + 3b$

3) $4 - 5x$

Let's try a few

Simplify by collecting like terms

① $4y - 2y + 5$
 $= 2y + 5$

② $2y - 5a + 6y + 2a$
 $= 2y + 6y - 5a + 2a$
 $= 8y - 3a$

③ $9x^2 + 10 + 4x^2 + 7$

→ $= 9x^2 + 4x^2 + 10 + 7$

→ $= 13x^2 + 17$