Introduction to Algebra

☞ Algebra is one of the branches of mathematics that involves letters of the English alphabet, numbers, and mathematical operations.

Main Features of Algebra

The main feature of algebra is the use of letters, which allow us to write rules and formulae in the general way and one can talk about any number and not just a particular number.

- Letters mat stand for unknown quantities. By learning methods of determining unknowns, we develop powerful tools for solving puzzles and problems from daily life.

- Since letters stand for numbers, operations can be performed on them as numbers. This leads to the study of algebraic expressions and their properties.

☞ **Let us understand with some examples:**

(i) $2x + y$ (ii) $2x + 3y + 7$