An **equation** is a mathematical   that uses an   sign,   ,
to show that two   are

Expressions   **Equations**

To write a   as an   look for   or
phrases such as   to determine where to place
the   sign.

EXAMPLE 1   Writing Equations

Write the word sentence as an equation.

a. The sum of a number *n* and 7 is 15.

⋮ An equation is

b. A number *y* decreased by 4 is 3.

⋮ An equation is

c. 12 times a number *p* equals 48.

⋮ An equation is

EXAMPLE 2 Writing an Equation

Ten servers decorate 25 tables for a wedding. Each table is decorated as shown. Let c be the total number of white and purple candles. Which equation can you use to find c?

A $c = 25 + (4 \times 6)$ **B** $c = 25(4 + 6)$

C $c = 10(25 + 4 + 6)$ **D** $c = 10(4 + 6)$

Words

Variable

Equation

∴ The correct answer is

EXAMPLE 3 Real-Life Application

After two rounds, 24 students are eliminated from a spelling bee. There are 96 students remaining. Write an equation you can use to find the number of students that started the spelling bee.

Words

Variable

Equation

Reading
The word *eliminated* means *subtraction*.

∴ An equation is