

## Checking for Algebra Understanding

1. In the math sentence  
 $2 * 8 + 5 = 21$   
what does the 'equal sign' mean?
2. In the math sentence  
 $3y - 1 = 12$   
what does the 'equal sign' mean?
3. The number of xylophones  $x$  manufactured in year  $y$  is given by  
 $x = 10y + 20$   
where  $y$  is the number of years since 2000. Draw a graph of this function.
4. Find the solution(s) to:  
 $cx^2 + ax + b = 0$
5. Asked to find the area of a triangle with base 10 cm and perpendicular height 5 cm, a student wrote:  
 $A = 10 \times 5 = 50 \div 2 = 25 \text{ cm}^2$ 
  - a. What is wrong with what this student wrote?
  - b. Re-write this correctly.