## Variables and equations

1. There were 50 sheets of construction paper in a pile. After Mia used some sheets, there were 24 sheets left. How many sheets did Mia used?
2. In a fruit basket, there were some apples. Since 3 of the apples are rotten, there are only 11 good apples left. How many apples are there in total?
3. There were 15 bags of flour in a kitchen. An order of flour was delivered and now there are 27 bags of flour in the kitchen. How many bags of flour were delivered?

4. There were 16 birds on the tree. Then, 4 of the birds flew away and 9 more birds flew in. How many birds were on the tree?
5. There were 22 students in Mr. Johnson's class. 4 students called in sick and a few left early for doctor's appointment. As a result, there were only 15 students in the class. How many students left early for doctor's appointments?

## Answers

Note: there are several possible correct equations for each problem.

1. $50-x=24$
$x=26$
Mia used 26 sheets.
2. $x-3=11$
$x=14$
There were 14 apples originally.
3. $15+x=27$
$\mathrm{x}=12$
12 bags of flour were delivered.
4. $x=16-4+9$
$x=21$
There were 21 birds on the tree.
5. $22-4-x=15$
$\mathrm{x}=3$
3 students left early for doctor's appointments.
