Examples of Solving Literal Translation Word Problems

	Ten times a number, decreased by thirty-two, equals twenty-eight.	The sum of a number and two less than three times that number.
Literal Translation (check instructions)	*Solve* (note: the word "equals" makes it solvable)	*Simplify*
Copy sentence, with space below each line	Ten times a number, decreased by thirty-two, equals twenty-eight.	The sum of a number and two less than three times that number.
Translate below line • numbers/variable • operations • clause (__and __)	Ten times a number, decreased by thirty-two, 10 * x - 32 equals twenty-eight. = 28	The sum of a number and two less than three [x + (2 - 3 times that number. * x)]
Rewrite translation	10 * x - 32 = 28	[x + (3*x - 2)]
Simplify	10x - 32 = 28	x + 3x - 2 4x - 2
Solve (when possible)	10x - 32 = 28 + 32 +32 10x = 60 10x/10 = 60/10 x = 6	*Not possible* (no =) *Answer is* 4x - 2