Equations and Linear Functions Terminology

1.	**break-even point**	the point or value at which a business stops making a loss and starts making a profit
2.	**coefficient**	the number in front of a variable in a function
3.	**constant of variation**	the constant of variation is the number that relates two variables that are directly proportional or inversely proportional to one another; it is the k in a variation formula
4.	**constant term**	a number on its own in a function, without a variable beside it
5.	**dependent variable**	the variable in a function that depends on another variable for its value
6.	**direct linear variation**	the relationship between two variables (say x and y) by an equation in the form y = kx, where k is the constant of variation
7.	**elimination method**	an algebraic way of solving simultaneous equations in which the equations are added or subtracted so that one of the variables is eliminated
8.	**formula**	a rule written as an algebraic equation, using variables
9.	**gradient**	the slope of a line; the rise over the run
10.	**independent variable**	a variable in a function whose values do not depend on any other variable
11.	**index laws**	rules for simplifying algebraic expressions involving powers of the same base
12.	**index notation**	a way of writing repeated multiplication using powers
13.	**like terms**	terms with the same letter and power
14.	**linear function**	a function of the form y = mx + b, whose graph is a straight line
15.	**power**	the number of times a base is multiplied by itself
16.	**proportional to**	a relationship between variables in which a change in one variable results in a direct change in the other variable
17.	**simultaneous equations**	two or more equations that must be solved together so that the solution satisfies all equations
18.	**subject of a formula**	the letter or variable alone on the left hand side of a formula
19.	**substitution method**	an algebraic way of solving simultaneous equations in which one variable is made the subject of one equation, then that equation is substituted into the other equation
20.	**y-intercept**	the value at which a straight line graph cuts the vertical axis