



Discussion Forum Unit 3

Programming 1 (University of the People)

Parameters are needed to provide some external data for a method. A formal parameter is a variable in a function definition, while an actual parameter is an actual input at function call.

Example

```
class Main
{
    // The parameter in the function definition is a formal one
    public static void method(int formalParameter) { }

    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        // The next variable that is passed to the method is an actual parameter
        int actualParameter = 5;
        method(actualParameter);
    }
}
```

The actual parameters will be 10 and 20, which are substituted into the function instead of num1 and num2, respectively.

Substituting the actual values are,

```
public static int sum(int num1, int num2)
{
    return num1/*=10*/+num2/*=20*/;
}
```