

**Exercise 123**

In the following exercises, evaluate each expression.

$$9a - 2b - 8 \text{ when}$$

$$a = -6 \text{ and } b = -3$$

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**Solution**

If  $a = -6$  and  $b = -3$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} 9a - 2b - 8 &= 9(-6) - 2(-3) - 8 \\ &= -54 + 6 - 8 \\ &= -54 - 2 \\ &= -56. \end{aligned}$$