A short version

Typical examples:

What do you think

3 + 4

means in most programming languages (all?)?

Yes, hardly surprising

3 + 4

means 3 added by 4. Which gives the result 7.

It would be stupid of the folks creating a programming language to have different meanings from the one we're used to.

But, sometimes it's not obvious.

How about

we usually think about the mathematical equality when seeing this sign. Or when stating that something has (as in already has) a value.

Operators =

We usually think about the mathematical equality when seeing this sign. Or when stating that something has (as in already has) a value.

In programming this sign mostly means "assignment".

int nrStudents = 13;
nrStudents = nrStudents + 1;

nrstudents now has the value 14.

This is a very common thing ... so common there's a short version.

```
int nrStudents = 13;
nrStudents++;
```

++ is an operator

variable++

variable--

there's also

++variable

--variable

```
3 + 4 adds 3 and 4
3 - 4 extracts 4 from 3
3 * 4 multiplies 3 and 4
17 / 4 divides 17 by 4,
only integer kept so in this case 4
```

3 + 4	adds 3 and 4, so 7
3 - 4	extracts 4 from 3, so -1
3 * 4	multiplies 3 and 4, so 12
17 / 4	divides 17 by 4,
	only integer kept so in this case 4
17 % 4	what's left after dividing 17 by 4,
	in this case 1

- 3.0 + 4.0 adds 3.0 and 4.0, so 7.0
- 3.0 4.0 extracts 4.0 from 3.0, so -1.0
- 3.0 * 4.0 multiplies 3.0 and 4.0, so 12.0
- 17.0 / 4.0 divides 17.0 by 4.0, so 4.25