

Solving Linear Equations

Steps to follow...

1. Simplifying the left and right side of the equation as two separate expressions.
2. Move the variables to the same side of the equal sign, using opposite operations.
Suggestion: move the variable with the smaller coefficient
3. Move all numbers away from the variable.
 - a. Take care of addition and subtraction first
 - b. Take care of multiplication and division second

Opposite Operations

1. Addition \leftrightarrow Subtraction
2. Multiplication \leftrightarrow Division

Remember:

$$x \leftrightarrow 1x$$

$$-x \leftrightarrow -1x$$

Solve each Equation

1. $2(n+5)+3n=7n-18$

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 2n+10+3n & = & 7n-18 \\
 5n+10 & = & 7n-18 \\
 -5n & -5n & \\
 \hline
 10 & = & 2n-18 \\
 +18 & +18 & \\
 \hline
 28 & = & 2n \\
 \frac{28}{2} & = & \frac{2n}{2} \\
 14 & = & n
 \end{array}$$

3. $-3(x-7)=4(2x-5)-3$

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 -3x+21 & = & 8x-20-3 \\
 -3x+21 & = & 8x-23 \\
 +3x & +3x & \\
 \hline
 21 & = & 11x-23 \\
 +23 & +23 & \\
 \hline
 44 & = & 11x \\
 \frac{44}{11} & = & \frac{11x}{11} \\
 4 & = & x
 \end{array}$$

5. $7.5(3.4-6.1b)=-3.7b-37.575$

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 25.5 - 45.75b & = & -3.7b - 37.575 \\
 +45.75b & +47.75b & \\
 \hline
 25.5 & = & 42.05b - 37.575 \\
 +37.575 & +37.575 & \\
 \hline
 43.075 & = & 42.05b \\
 \frac{43.075}{42.05} & = & \frac{42.05b}{42.05} \\
 1.5 & = & b
 \end{array}$$

2. $5(-3-2x)-8(6+3x)=-10x+3x$

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 -15-10x-48-24x & = & -10x+3x \\
 -34x-63 & = & -7x \\
 +34x & +34x & \\
 \hline
 -63 & = & 27x \\
 \frac{-63}{27} & = & \frac{27x}{27} \\
 -3 & = & x
 \end{array}$$

4. $4-x=\frac{26-7x}{5}$

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 5(4-x) & = & (26-7x) \\
 20-5x & = & 26-7x \\
 +7x & +7x & \\
 \hline
 20+2x & = & 26 \\
 -20 & -20 & \\
 \hline
 2x & = & 6 \\
 \frac{2x}{2} & = & \frac{6}{2} \\
 x & = & 3
 \end{array}$$

6. Find the mistake that was made when solving the equation. Explain why the work shown is incorrect. Solve the problem for the correct answer.

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 -96 & = & 3(12-2x) \\
 -96 & = & 36-6x \\
 -60 & = & -6x \\
 10 & = & x
 \end{array}$$

need to subtract 36 from both sides

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 -96 & = & 36-6x \\
 -132 & = & -6x \\
 \frac{-132}{-6} & = & \frac{-6x}{-6} \\
 22 & = & x
 \end{array}$$