

PAIR OF LINEAR EQUATIONS In TWO VARIABLES

Example 6: In a shop the cost of 2 pencils and 3 erasers is 9 and the cost of 4 pencils and 6 erasers is 18. Find the cost of each pencil and each eraser.

Solution : The pair of linear equations formed were:

$$2x + 3y = 9 \quad (1)$$

$$4x + 6y = 18 \quad (2)$$

We first express the value of x in terms of y from Equation (1), to get

$$x = \frac{9 - 3y}{2} \quad (3)$$

Now we substitute this value of x in Equation (2), to get

$$\begin{aligned} 4\left(\frac{9 - 3y}{2}\right) + 6y &= 18 \\ 18 - 6y + 6y &= 18 \\ \Rightarrow 18 &= 18 \end{aligned}$$

This statement is true for all values of y . However, we do not get a specific value of y as a solution. Therefore, we cannot obtain a specific value of x . This situation has arisen because both the given equations are the same. Therefore, Equations (1) and (2) have infinitely many solutions. We cannot find a unique cost of a pencil and an eraser, because there are many common solutions to the given situation.

Example 7: Two rails are represented by the equations: [$x + 2y - 4 = 0$ and $2x + 4y - 12 = 0$.] Will the rails cross each other?

Solution : The pair of linear equations formed were:

$$x + 2y - 4 = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$2x + 4y - 12 = 0 \quad (2)$$

We express x in terms of y from Equation (1), to get

$$x = 4 - 2y$$

Now, we substitute this value of x in Equation (2), to get

$$\begin{aligned} 2(4 - 2y) + 4y - 12 &= 0 \\ 8 - 4y + 4y - 12 &= 0 \\ -4 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Which is False statement.

Therefore, the equations do not have a common solution. So, the two rails will not cross each other.