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O8
 1d
 Solve
$$|4x - 3| = 7$$
 2

 Two cases:
 $4x - 3 = 7$
 $-(4x - 3) = 7$
 $4x = 7 + 3$
 $4x - 3 = -7$
 $4x = 10$
 $4x = -7 + 3$

$$\frac{4x}{4} = \frac{10}{4}$$

$$4x = -4$$
 $x = 2.5$

$$x = -1$$

Board of Studies: Notes from the Marking Centre

In weaker responses, candidates displayed some understanding of absolute value but set up their equations incorrectly. Incorrectly solving the equations was the most common error. Some candidates did not recognise that there were two cases to consider. In the better responses, candidates found the solutions to both cases and then went on to test their answers to confirm that they had the correct solution.

Source: http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/hsc_exams/

^{*} These solutions have been provided by projectmaths and are not supplied or endorsed by the Board of Studies