

## 6.3 SOLVING MULTI-STEP LINEAR EQUATIONS

Name: Key

Block \_\_\_\_\_

In this section we are going to look at *more complicated examples* of linear equations that involve using **multiple steps** and **all the techniques we've learnt so far** to find a solution.

The aim of the game:

Use the algebraic techniques we have been working with in this unit to **isolate the variable on one side** of the equation and the **numeric terms on the other side** of the equation

### A) VARIABLES ON BOTH SIDES

Many multi-step equations contain variables on BOTH sides.

So how do we decide which to isolate?

COLLECT LIKE TERMS!

$x, m$   
whatever  
the variable  
is

Move all variables to the same side and all constant (numbers only) terms to the other side!

**EXAMPLE:**

a)  $3m + 3 = 7m + 12$

$$\begin{array}{r} -7m \\ \hline -4m + 3 = 12 \\ \hline -3 \\ \hline 4m = 9 \\ \hline -4 \quad -4 \\ m = \frac{-9}{4} = -2.25 \end{array}$$

Check:  
 $3(-2.25) + 3 = 7(-2.25) + 12$   
 $\checkmark -3.75 = -3.75$

b)  $-5m + 20 = -7m - 15$

$$\begin{array}{r} +5m \\ \hline 20 = -2m - 15 \\ +15 \\ \hline \frac{35}{-2} = \frac{-2m}{-2} \\ \hline -17.5 = m \end{array}$$

Give students  
~5 mins  
to make a  
start or  
Practice a...  
check around  
to see how they  
are doing...  
can go over a  
few together...  
but this is  
part of HW.  
(all Practice  
Questions)

120. Solve.  $5m+1=3m-7$

$$\begin{array}{r} -1 \quad -1 \\ 5m = 3m - 8 \\ -3m \quad -3m \\ \hline 2m = -8 \\ \hline 2 \quad 2 \\ m = -4 \end{array}$$

122. Solve.  $2m+10=7m-15$

$$\begin{array}{r} -7m \quad -7m \\ -5m + 10 = -15 \\ -10 \quad -10 \\ \hline -5m = -25 \\ \hline -5 \quad -5 \\ m = 5 \end{array}$$

121. Solve.  $13m+5=11m-7$

$$\begin{array}{r} -11m \quad -11m \\ 2m + 5 = -7 \\ -5 \quad -5 \\ \hline 2m = -12 \\ \hline 2 \quad 2 \\ m = -6 \end{array}$$

123. Solve.  $-3m+18=6m-6$

$$\begin{array}{r} +3m \quad +3m \\ 18 = 9m - 6 \\ +6 \quad +6 \\ \hline 24 = 9m \\ \hline 9 \quad 9 \\ m = \frac{24}{9} = \frac{8}{3} \end{array}$$

124.  $2m+3=-7m-15$

$$\begin{array}{r} +7m \quad +7m \\ 9m + 3 = -15 \\ -3 \quad -3 \\ \hline 9m = -18 \\ \hline 9 \quad 9 \\ m = -2 \end{array}$$

125. Solve.  $2m+20=-7m-15$

$$\begin{array}{r} +7m \quad +7m \\ 9m + 20 = -15 \\ -20 \quad -20 \\ \hline 9m = -35 \\ \hline 9 \quad 9 \\ m = \frac{-35}{9} \end{array}$$

## B) BRACKETS, FRACTIONS VARIABLES ON BOTH SIDES...OH MY!

Now that the equations are getting more complex, it may helpful to review these steps.

- Eliminate Fractions by multiplying both sides by the common denominator.
- Eliminate brackets by Expanding.
- Collect Like Terms on each side of the equal sign.
- Get variables to same side by Subtracting or Adding variables to each side.
- Get constants to same side by Subtracting or Adding constants to each side.
- Isolate the variable by Dividing both sides by the coefficient.

$\pi$   
KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
DO  
MATH

EXAMPLE:

① Expand brackets

$$\begin{aligned} a) \quad & 2(6w+2) = 4w - 3 \\ & 12w + 4 = 4w - 3 \\ & \quad -4 \quad -4 \\ & 12w = 4w - 7 \\ & \quad -4w \quad -4w \\ & 8w = 7 \end{aligned}$$

$$w = \frac{7}{8}$$

$$b) \quad \left( \frac{2}{3} + \frac{5}{6}c \right) = \frac{1}{3}c - \frac{1}{6}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{12}{3} + \frac{30}{6}c = \frac{6}{3}c - \frac{6}{6} \\ & (12 \div 3) \text{ (divide top/bottom)} \\ & 4 + 5c = 2c - 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$c) \quad \left( 2(m-1) + \frac{5m}{2} \right) = \frac{2}{3}(m+3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & 12(m-1) + \frac{30m}{2} = \frac{12}{3}(m+3) \\ & 12(m-1) + 15m = 4(m+3) \end{aligned}$$

$$12m - 12 + 15m = 4m + 12$$

$$12m + 15m - 4m - 12 = 12$$

$$\frac{23m}{23} = \frac{24}{23}$$

$$m = \frac{24}{23}$$

PRACTICE

(same as before...  
students  
TRY these  
on own)

$$142. \quad 4(m-1) - 6m = -10(2m-1) - 1$$

$$4m - 4 - 6m = -20m + 20 - 1$$

$$+20m$$

$$\begin{aligned} & 4m - 6m + 20m - 4 = +20 - 1 \\ & \quad +4 \quad +4 \\ & 18m = 23 \\ & \frac{18m}{18} = \frac{23}{18} \\ & m = \frac{23}{18} = 1.28 \end{aligned}$$

$$143. \quad 3(m-1) + 6m = 5(2m-1) + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} & 3m - 3 + 6m = 10m - 5 + 1 \\ & \quad -10m \quad -10m \\ & 3m + 6m - 10m - 3 = -5 + 1 \\ & \quad +3 \quad +3 \\ & -1m = -1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{m = 1}$$

② watch the signs! remember the rules!

$$158. \quad \left( \frac{5m}{2} + \frac{m}{3} \right) = \frac{1}{2}m + 5$$

$$\frac{30m}{2} + \frac{6m}{3} = \frac{6m}{2} + 30 \quad \div \text{divide fractions.}$$

$$15m + 2m = 3m + 30$$

$$-3m \quad -3m$$

$$\frac{14m}{14} = \frac{30}{14}$$

$$m = \frac{30}{14} = \frac{15}{7} = 2.14$$

$$160. \quad \left( \frac{m}{3} + \frac{m}{4} \right) \times 12 \quad (\text{LCD of 3 and 4})$$

$$12m - \frac{12m}{3} = \frac{12}{4}m + 48 \quad \div \text{divide fractions.}$$

$$12m - 4m = 3m + 48$$

$$-3m \quad -3m$$

$$\frac{5m}{5} = \frac{48}{5}$$

$$m = \frac{48}{5} = 9.6$$

## 0) MULTI-STEP LINEAR EQUATION WORD PROBLEMS

Distance around... adding up all sides.

Example 1:

The rectangles pictured have the same perimeter.

a) Determine the value of  $x$  that makes this true.

Step ② Solve for  $x$ : expand brackets

$$2(6x) + 2(2x) = 2(3x+2) + 2(3x+1)$$

$$12x + 4x = 6x + 4 + 6x + 2$$

$$16x = 12x + 6$$

$$-12x \quad -12x$$

$$\frac{4x}{4} = \frac{6}{4} \quad x = 1.5$$

\*comme like terms!

Step ① Find Perimeter  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ :

$$P_1 = 2(6x + 6x + 2x + 2x) = 24x$$

$$P_2 = 2(3x+2) + 2(3x+1) = 12x + 4 + 6x + 2 = 18x + 6$$

$$P_1 = P_2$$

b) What are the dimensions of each rectangle? (substitution)

$$P_1 = 6x + 6x + 2x + 2x$$

$$P_1 = 6(1.5) + 6(1.5) + 2(1.5) + 2(1.5)$$

$$9 + 9 + 3 + 3$$

$$\boxed{P_1 = 24}$$

$$P_2 = 2(3x+2) + 2(3x+1)$$

$$= 2(3(1.5) + 2) + 2(3(1.5) + 1)$$

$$= 2(4.5 + 2) + 2(4.5 + 1)$$

$$P_2 = 2(6.5) + 2(5.5)$$

$$P_2 = 13 + 11$$

\*BEDMAS\*

↑ solve in brackets 1st

Example 2:

Ted and Wayne are both travelling across British Columbia. Ted drives at an average speed of 90 km/h. Wayne left 30 minutes later and drove at an average speed of 100 km/h.

a) How long did it take for Wayne to catch up with Ted?

- ① Let  $t$  = time in min after Ted left.
- ② Convert speed  $\frac{\text{km}}{\text{h}}$  to  $\frac{\text{km}}{\text{min}}$  by  $\div$  by 60 Ted  $90 \div 60 = 1.5 \text{ km/min}$  cr  $\frac{90}{60}$
- ③ Teds distance =  $\frac{90}{60}t$  Wayne's distance  $\frac{100}{60}(t - 30)$
- ④ Want to find "t" when their distances are equal... so  $\Rightarrow$   $\frac{90}{60}t = \frac{100}{60}(t - 30)$
- ⑤ solve  $\Rightarrow$   $\frac{90}{60}t = \frac{100}{60}(t - 30) \times 60$

↑ repeating decimal... better to leave as fraction  
 $\frac{100}{60} \text{ km/min}$

b) How far have they driven to this point?

(substitute  $t = 300 \text{ min} = 5 \text{ hrs}$ )

$$\text{Teds distance} = \frac{90}{60}(300) = 450 \text{ km}$$

$$\left[ \frac{90 \cdot 300}{60} = 450 \text{ km} \right]$$

$$90t = 100(t - 30)$$

$$90t = 100t - 3000$$

$$-100t \quad -100t$$

$$-10t = -3000$$

$$\frac{-10t}{-10} = \frac{-3000}{-10}$$

$$t = 300 \text{ min.} \div 60 = 5 \text{ hr}$$

$$\text{Waynes distance} = \frac{100}{60}(300 - 30)$$

$$= \frac{100}{60}(270)$$

$$\frac{100 \cdot 270}{60} = 450 \text{ km}$$

if their distances are equal (as they should be) you've just checked your work ✓

### Homework

Assignment #6.3 231 - 235  
 (Textbook HW)

Required

#1, 2, 4ace, 5acef,  
 6ace, 7, 10abc, 11,

13, 14, 15, 16, 17,  
 18, 20, 26a

Extra Practice

#3, 4bdf, 5bd,  
 6bd, 8, 9, 10d, 12,  
 19, 21, 22, 26b

Extension

23, 24, 25