

# WORKBOOK EXAMPLES

## CHAPTER 3

### MATH 1100

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# OUTLINE

## 1 §3.5: SOLVING EQUATIONS & INEQUALITIES w/ ABS. VALUE

## EQUATIONS WITH ABSOLUTE VALUE

For  $a > 0$  and an algebraic expression  $x$ :

$$|x| = a$$

is equivalent to

$$x = a \text{ or } x = -a.$$

## EXAMPLE

Solve

$$|x| = 5.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow x = 5, x = -5.$$

## EXAMPLE

Solve

$$|5x| = 4.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow 5x = 4, 5x = -4$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{4}{5}, x = -\frac{4}{5}.$$

## EXAMPLE

Solve

$$|x - 3| = 5.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow x - 3 = 5, x - 3 = -5$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 8, x = -2.$$

## EXAMPLE

Solve

$$|x + 2| - 5 = 9.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow |x + 2| = 14$$

$$\Rightarrow x + 2 = 14, x + 2 = -14$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 12, x = -16.$$

## EXAMPLE

Solve

$$|x - 4| + 3 = 9.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow |x - 4| = 6$$

$$\Rightarrow x - 4 = 6, x - 4 = -6$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 10, x = -2.$$



## EXAMPLE

Solve

$$9 - |x - 2| = 7.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow -|x - 2| = -2$$

$$\Rightarrow |x - 2| = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow x - 2 = 2, x - 2 = -2$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 4, x = 0.$$

## EXAMPLE

Solve

$$5 - |4x + 3| = 2.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow -|4x + 3| = -3$$

$$\Rightarrow |4x + 3| = 3$$

$$\Rightarrow 4x + 3 = 3, 4x + 3 = -3$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 0, x = -\frac{3}{2}.$$

## MORE ABOUT ABSOLUTE VALUE EQUATIONS

When  $a = 0$ ,  $|x| = a$  is equivalent to  $x = 0$ .

Note that for  $a < 0$ ,  $|x| = a$  has *no* solution, because the absolute value of an expression is never negative. The solution set is the *empty set*, denoted  $\emptyset$ .

## EXAMPLE

Solve

$$|x - 4| + 3 = 0.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow |x - 4| = -3,$$

but this equation has no solution,

i.e. the solution set is  $\emptyset$ .

# INEQUALITIES WITH ABSOLUTE VALUE

Inequalities sometimes contain absolute-value notation.

The following properties are used to solve them.

For  $a > 0$  and an algebraic expression  $x$ :

$$|x| < a \text{ is equivalent to } -a < x < a,$$

$$|x| > a \text{ is equivalent to } x < -a \text{ or } x > a.$$

Similar statements hold for  $|x| \leq a$  and  $|x| \geq a$ .

## INEQUALITIES WITH ABSOLUTE VALUE (CONT.)

For example,

$|x| < 3$  is equivalent to  $-3 < x < 3$ .

$|y| \geq 1$  is equivalent to  $y \leq -1$  or  $y \geq 1$ .

$|2x + 3| \leq 4$  is equivalent to  $-4 \leq 2x + 3 \leq 4$ .

## EXAMPLE

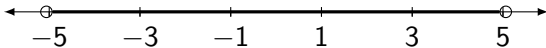
Solve

$$|x| < 5.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow -5 < x < 5,$$

$$(-5, 5).$$



## EXAMPLE

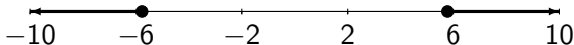
Solve

$$|x| \geq 6.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow x \leq -6 \text{ or } x \geq 6,$$

$$(-\infty, -6] \cup [6, \infty).$$





## EXAMPLE

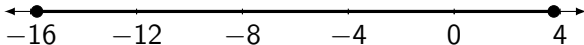
Solve

$$|x + 6| \leq 10.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow -10 \leq x + 6 \leq 10$$

$$\Rightarrow -16 \leq x \leq 4, [-16, 4].$$



## EXAMPLE

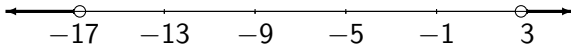
Solve

$$|x + 7| > 10.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow x + 7 < -10 \text{ or } x + 7 > 10$$

$$\Rightarrow x < -17 \text{ or } x > 3, (-\infty, -17) \cup (3, \infty).$$



## EXAMPLE

Solve

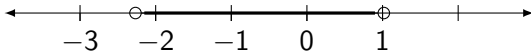
$$|3x + 2| < 5.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow -5 < 3x + 2 < 5$$

$$\Rightarrow -7 < 3x < 3$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{7}{3} < x < 1, \left(-\frac{7}{3}, 1\right).$$



## EXAMPLE

Solve

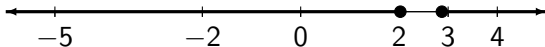
$$|5 - 2x| \geq 1.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow 5 - 2x \leq -1 \text{ or } 5 - 2x \geq 1$$

$$\Rightarrow -2x \leq -6 \text{ or } -2x \geq -4$$

$$\Rightarrow x \geq 3 \text{ or } x \leq 2, (-\infty, 2] \cup [3, \infty).$$



## EXAMPLE

Solve

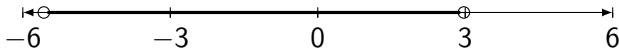
$$|3x + 4| < 13.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow -13 < 3x + 4 < 13$$

$$\Rightarrow -17 < 3x < 9$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{17}{3} < x < 3, \left(-\frac{17}{3}, 3\right)$$



## EXAMPLE

Solve

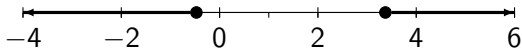
$$|6 - 4x| \geq 8.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow 6 - 4x \leq -8 \text{ or } 6 - 4x \geq 8$$

$$\Rightarrow -4x \leq -14 \text{ or } -4x \geq 2$$

$$\Rightarrow x \leq -\frac{1}{2} \text{ or } x \geq \frac{7}{2}, \left(-\infty, -\frac{1}{2}\right] \cup \left[\frac{7}{2}, \infty\right)$$



## EXAMPLE

Solve

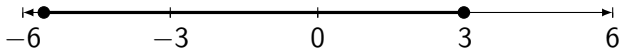
$$|4 + 3x| \leq 13.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow -13 \leq 3x + 4 \leq 13$$

$$\Rightarrow -17 \leq 3x \leq 9$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{17}{3} \leq x \leq 3, \left[-\frac{17}{3}, 3\right]$$



## EXAMPLE

Solve

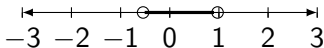
$$|1 - 6x| < 5.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow -5 < 1 - 6x < 5$$

$$\Rightarrow -6 < -6x < 4$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{2}{3} < x < 1, \left(-\frac{2}{3}, 1\right)$$





## EXAMPLE

Solve

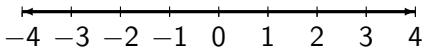
$$|7 - x| \geq -4.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow 7 - x \leq 4 \text{ or } 7 - x \geq -4$$

$$\Rightarrow -x \leq -3 \text{ or } -x \geq -11$$

$$\Rightarrow x \geq 3 \text{ or } x \leq 11, (-\infty, \infty)$$



## EXAMPLE

Solve

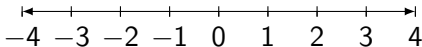
$$|2x + 5| < 0.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow 0 < 2x + 5 < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -5 < 2x < -5$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{5}{2} < x < -\frac{5}{2}, \emptyset$$



## EXAMPLE

Solve

$$|x - 5| - 8 = -1.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow |x - 5| = 7$$

$$\Rightarrow x - 5 = 7, x - 5 = -7$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 12, x = -2 \text{ (D.)}$$

## EXAMPLE

Solve

$$|6x + 3| = 7.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow 6x + 3 = 7, 6x + 3 = -7$$

$$\Rightarrow 6x = 4, 6x = -10$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{2}{3}, x = -\frac{5}{3} \quad (C.)$$

## EXAMPLE

Solve

$$|5x - 2| \geq 6.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow 5x - 2 \geq 6 \text{ or } 5x - 2 \leq -6$$

$$\Rightarrow 5x \geq 8 \text{ or } 5x \leq -4$$

$$\Rightarrow x \leq -\frac{4}{5} \text{ or } x \geq \frac{8}{5}, (-\infty, -4/5] \cup [8/5, \infty) \text{ (D.)}$$

## EXAMPLE

Solve

$$|3x + 2| < 19.$$

SOLUTION:

$$\Rightarrow -19 < 3x + 2 < 19$$

$$\Rightarrow -21 < 3x < 17$$

$$\Rightarrow -7 < x < \frac{17}{3}, \left(-7, \frac{17}{3}\right) \quad (D.)$$