Note

In mathematics, you must be able to represent intervals and identify smaller sections of a relation or a set of numbers.

You have used the following inequality symbols:

- > greater than
- < less than
- \geq greater than or equal to
- \leq less than or equal to

Linear Inequality is an inequality that contains an algebraic expression of degree 1

For example:

$$5x + 3 \le 6x - 2$$

We solve inequality much the same as we do equations.

Ex. 1 - Solve an Inequality

Solve for all values of x.

$$4x + 3 \ge 15$$

$$4x \ge 15 - 3$$

$$4x \ge 12$$

$$\begin{array}{c} -\frac{4x}{4} \ge \frac{12}{4} \\ x \ge 3 \end{array}$$

We can also write out solution using set notation.

$$\{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \ge 3\}$$

$$x \in [3, \infty)$$

Solve for all values of x.

$$7 - 3x \le -2$$

$$-3x \le -2 - 7$$

$$-3x \leq -9$$

$$\frac{-3x}{-3} \le \frac{-9}{-3}$$

$$x \ge 3$$

When dividing or multiplying by a negative constant, we need to reverse the inequality sign

$$\{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \ge 3\}$$

$$x \in [3, \infty)$$

Ex. 3 - Solving a Double Inequality

Solve for all values of x

$$30 \le 3(2x+4) - 2(x+1) \le 46$$

$$30 \le 6x + 12 - 2x - 2 \le 46$$

$$30 \le 4x + 10 \le 46$$

$$30 - 10 \le 4x + 10 - 10 \le 46 - 10$$

$$\begin{array}{c} -20 \le 4x \le 36 \\ \frac{20}{4} \le \frac{4x}{4} \le \frac{36}{4} \\ 5 \le x \le 9 \end{array}$$

$$5 \le x \le 9$$