

Solving Systems of Linear Equations Answers and Explanations

Answer

1. B 2. C 3. D 4. D 5. C 6. D 7. A 8. B 9. D 10. C

Answer Key

1. **B.** In this problem we will use substitution to solve the system of equations. First, we will isolate the x -value in the first equation $2x - 4y = -8 \rightarrow x - 2y = -4 \rightarrow x = 2y - 4$. We will then plug this x -value into the second equation to find our y -value:

$$\begin{aligned}4x - 2y &= -16 \\2x - y &= -8 \\2(2y - 4) - y &= -8 \\4y - 8 - y &= -8 \\3y &= 0 \\y &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Knowing that our y -value is zero we can solve for our x -value:

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

Therefore, the value of $x + y$ is equal to -4 which makes answer choice (B) correct.

2. **C.** For this problem we will isolate the x -value in the second equation $x + 6y = 3$

$$x = 3 - 6y$$

Then we will substitute this into our first equation to find our y -value

$$\begin{aligned}3x - y &= 2y + 2 \\3x &= 3y + 2 \\3(3 - 6y) &= 3y + 2 \\9 - 18y &= 3y + 2 \\7 &= 21y \\y &= \frac{1}{3}\end{aligned}$$

Knowing that our y -value is $\frac{1}{3}$ we can solve for our x -value:

$$\begin{aligned}x + 6y &= 3 \\x + 6\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) &= 3 \\x + 2 &= 3 \\x &= 1\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the value of $x \times y = \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)(1) = \frac{1}{3}$ which makes answer choice (C) correct.

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3. **D.** In this problem, we will use elimination to solve the system of equations. First, we will add the two linear equations together cancelling out the y -value

$$\begin{array}{r} (5x + 2y = 6) \\ + (4x - 2y = 12) \\ \hline 9x = 18 \end{array}$$

$$x = 2$$

Knowing that our x -value is 2 we can solve for our y -value

$$\begin{array}{r} 5x + 2y = 6 \\ 5(2) + 2y = 6 \\ 2y = -4 \\ y = -2 \end{array}$$

Therefore, the value of $x - y = 2 - (-2) = 4$ which makes answer choice (D) correct.

4. **D.** Here we have two obscure linear equations that can be simplified

$$36x - 9y = 108 \rightarrow 4x - y = 12$$

$$14x - 7y = 28 \rightarrow 2x - y = 4$$

Now we can isolate our y -value in our second equation

$$2x - y = 4 \rightarrow y = 2x - 4 \rightarrow 4x - (2x - 4) = 12 \rightarrow 2x = 8 \rightarrow x = 4$$

Knowing that our x -value is 4 we can solve for our y -value

$$2x - y = 4 \rightarrow 2(4) - y = 4 \rightarrow y = 4$$

Therefore, the value of $x + y = (4) + (4) = 8$

5. **C.** In this problem we will use substitution to solve the system of equations. First, we will isolate the y -value in the second equation $5y = 4x \rightarrow y = \frac{4}{5}x$. We will then plug this y -value into the first equation to find our x -value.

$$3y = \frac{4}{3} - \frac{x}{3} \rightarrow 3\left(\frac{4}{5}x\right) = \frac{4}{3} - \frac{x}{3} \rightarrow \frac{12}{5}x = \frac{4}{3} - \frac{x}{3} \rightarrow \frac{36}{15}x + \frac{5}{15}x = \frac{20}{15} \rightarrow \frac{41}{15}x = \frac{20}{15} \rightarrow x = \frac{20}{41}$$

Knowing that our x -value is $\frac{20}{41}$ we can solve for our y -value:

$$5y = 4x \rightarrow y = \frac{4}{5}\left(\frac{20}{41}\right) = \frac{80}{205} = \frac{16}{41}$$

Now that we have our x and y -values the question is asking for the dividend of our x and y -values.

$$\frac{x}{y} = \frac{\frac{20}{41}}{\frac{16}{41}} = \frac{20}{41} \times \frac{41}{16} = \frac{20}{16} \text{ which means answer choice (C) is correct.}$$

6. **D.** Here we are only asked to find the x -value of the systems of equations; therefore, we will isolate the y -value in this first equation to find our x -value.

$$-x + y = -2.5 \rightarrow y = x - 2.5$$

Now we can substitute our y in the second equation to find our x -value.

$$x + 3y = 10.5 \rightarrow x + 3(x - 2.5) = 10.5 \rightarrow x + 3x - 7.5 = 10.5 \rightarrow 4x = 18 \rightarrow x = 4.5$$

Knowing that our x -value is 4.5 answer choice (D) is correct.

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7. **A.** For this problem, we are presented with an isolated x -value in the first equation; therefore, we will simplify and substitute to solve for our y -value. $2x = 2y - 6 \rightarrow x = y - 3$. Now we can substitute our x -value into the second equation to find our y -value.
 $(y - 3) + 4y = 12 \rightarrow 5y = 15 \rightarrow y = 3$. Knowing that our y -value is 3 we can substitute this value into our first equation to get an x -value. $2x = 2(3) - 6 \rightarrow x = 0$. Therefore, the ordered pair (x, y) that satisfies the system of equations is $(0, 3)$ which means answer choice (A) is correct.
8. **B.** Here we have a problem testing our knowledge of systems of equations with infinitely many solutions. When a system of equations has infinitely many solutions the two lines are exactly the same; therefore, we can multiply our first equation in order to align our y -intercepts. $ax + by = 14 \rightarrow 5ax + 5by = 70$. Now we know that a and b are constants, and we also know that our equations must match therefore we can set the x -values and y -values equal to each other in order to get the values of a and b . $5ax = 3x \rightarrow a = \frac{3}{5}$
 $5by = 5y \rightarrow b = 1$. Knowing that our a and b values are $\frac{3}{5}$ and 1 respectively we can now solve for the dividend of $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{\frac{3}{5}}{1} = \frac{3}{5}$ which means answer choice (B) is correct.
9. **D.** Here we have a problem that is testing our knowledge on the systems of equations with no solutions. When a system of equations has no solutions the two lines must be parallel and never intersect, which means they have the same slope, but different y -intercepts. Therefore, we will put the two equations in slope-intercept form
 $3x + 6y = 10 \rightarrow y = -\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{5}{3}$ and $6x + cy = 12 \rightarrow y = -\frac{6}{c}x + 12$. Looking at the two equations in order for them to be parallel our value of c must equal 12 which means answer choice (D) is correct.
10. **C.** Here we have a problem testing our knowledge of systems of equations with infinitely many solutions. When a system of equations has infinitely many solutions the two lines are exactly the same; therefore, we can multiply our first equation in order to align our y -intercepts. $cx + 3y = 24 \rightarrow 4cx + 12y = 72$. Furthermore, we can put both equations into slope-intercept form in order to determine the slope.
 $192x + 64y = 384 \rightarrow y = -3x + 6$ and $4cx + 12y = 72 \rightarrow y = -\frac{4c}{12}x + \frac{72}{12} \rightarrow y = -\frac{4c}{12}x + 6$. In order to make these lines exactly the same our c -value must equal 9 which makes answer choice (C) correct.