LESSON 2.4

Study Guide

For use with the lesson "Solve Multi-Step Equations"

GOAL Solve multi-step equations.

EXAMPLE 1 ## Solve an equation by combining like terms

Solve $17x - 11x + 8 = 20$.

Solution

$17x - 11x + 8 = 20$	Write original equation.
$6x + 8 = 20$	Combine like terms.
$6x + 8 - 8 = 20 - 8$	Subtract 8 from each side.
$6x = 12$	Simplify.
$\dfrac{6x}{6} = \dfrac{12}{6}$	Divide each side by 6.
$x = 2$	Simplify.

Exercises for Example 1

Solve the equation. Check your solution.

1. $9x - 13x + 7 = 31$

2. $13 - 5x + 8x = -2$

3. $15x - 9 - 8x = 12$

4. $18 - 2x - 4x = -24$

EXAMPLE 2 ## Solve an equation using the distributive property

Solve $4x + 3(2x - 1) = 17$.

Solution

METHOD 1 Show All Steps	**METHOD 2 Do Some Steps Mentally**
$4x + 3(2x - 1) = 17$	$4x + 3(2x - 1) = 17$
$4x + 6x - 3 = 17$	$4x + 6x - 3 = 17$
$10x - 3 = 17$	$10x - 3 = 17$
$10x - 3 + 3 = 17 + 3$	$10x = 20$
$10x = 20$	$x = 2$
$\dfrac{10x}{10} = \dfrac{20}{10}$	
$x = 2$	

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Exercises for Example 2

Solve the equation. Check your solution.

5. $3(x - 4) + 4x = 16$

6. $9x - 6(3x - 3) = 9$

7. $-2x + 7(3x - 1) = 31$

8. $5(2x + 8) - 6x = 16$

EXAMPLE 3 ## Multiply by a reciprocal to solve an equation

Solve $\frac{3}{4}(5x - 4) = 12$.

Solution

$\frac{3}{4}(5x - 4) = 12$	Write original equation.
$\frac{4}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{4}(5x - 4) = \frac{4}{3} \cdot 12$	Multiply each side by $\frac{4}{3}$, the reciprocal of $\frac{3}{4}$.
$5x - 4 = 16$	Simplify.
$5x = 20$	Subtract 4 from each side.
$x = 4$	Simplify.

Exercises for Example 3

Solve the equation. Check your solution.

9. $\frac{1}{2}(x - 11) = 9$

10. $-\frac{3}{2}(2y + 6) = 15$

11. $-15 = \frac{5}{7}(4z - 1)$

12. $36 = -\frac{3}{4}(5m + 12)$

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