# **Apply Properties of** Equality

**GOAL** Use algebraic properties to help solve equations.

#### **Key Vocabulary**

- equation
- solve an equation

Extension



CC.9-12.A.REI.1 Explain each step in solving a simple equation as following from the equality of numbers asserted at the previous step, starting from the assumption that the original equation has a solution. Construct a viable argument to justify a solution method.

When you solve an equation, you use properties of real numbers. In particular you use the *algebraic properties of equality* and the *distributive property*.

#### For Your Notebook **KEY CONCEPT Algebraic Properties of Equality** Let *a*, *b*, and *c* be real numbers. **Addition Property** If a = b, then a + c = b + c. **Subtraction Property** If a = b, then a - c = b - c. **Multiplication Property** If a = b, then ac = bc. If a = b and $c \neq 0$ , then $\frac{a}{c} = \frac{b}{c}$ . **Division Property** If a = b, then *a* can be substituted for *b* in **Substitution Property** any equation or expression.

## EXAMPLE 1 Write reasons for each step

Solve 4x + 7 = -2x - 5. Write reasons for each step.

#### Solution

| Equation                   | Explanation                | Reason                                 |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 4x+7=-2x-5                 | Write original equation.   | Given                                  |
| 4x + 7 + 2x = -2x - 5 + 2x | Add $2x$ to each side.     | Addition Property<br>of Equality       |
| 6x + 7 = -5                | Combine like terms.        | Simplify.                              |
| 6x + 7 - 7 = -5 - 7        | Subtract 7 from each side. | Subtraction<br>Property of<br>Equality |
| 6x = -12                   | Combine like terms.        | Simplify.                              |
| <i>x</i> = -2              | Divide each side by 6.     | Division Property<br>of Equality       |

The value of x is -2.



Solve the equation. Write a reason for each step.

1. 5x - 7 = 8

**2.** 13 - 2x = x + 25

**Distributive Property** 

a(b + c) = ab + ac, where *a*, *b*, and *c* are real numbers.

## **EXAMPLE 2** Use the Distributive Property

Solve 7(5 - x) = 14. Write reasons for each step.

#### **Solution**

| Equation      | Explanation                 | Reason                              |  |
|---------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 7(5 - x) = 14 | Write original equation.    | Given                               |  |
| 35 - 7x = 14  | Multiply.                   | Distributive Property               |  |
| -7x = -21     | Subtract 35 from each side. | Subtraction Property of<br>Equality |  |
| <i>x</i> = 3  | Divide each side by −7.     | Division Property of<br>Equality    |  |

▶ The value of *x* is 3.

### PRACTICE

Copy the logical argument. Write a reason for each step.

| 1. $3x - 12 = 7x + 8$ | Given | <b>2.</b> $5(x-1) = 4x + 3$ | Given |
|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-------|
| -4x - 12 = 8          | ?     | 5x - 5 = 4x + 3             | ?     |
| -4x = 20              | ?     | x - 5 = 3                   | ?     |
| x = -5                | ?     | x = 8                       | ?     |

For Exercises 3–14, solve the equation. Write a reason for each step.

**3.** 5x - 10 = -40**4.** 4x + 9 = 16 - 3x**5.** 5 - x = 17**6.** 2x - 3 = x - 5**7.** 19 - 2x = -17**8.** -3x = -5x + 12**9.** 5(3x - 20) = -10**10.** 3(2x + 11) = 9**11.** 2(-x - 5) = 12**12.** 4(5x - 9) = -2(x + 7)**13.** 13 - x = -2(x + 3)**14.** 3(7x - 9) - 19x = -15**15. ERROR ANALYSIS** Describe and correct the error in solving for x.

7x = x + 24Given8x = 24Addition Property of Equalityx = 3Division Property of Equality

**16. DEBATE** Mrs. Sinclair divided her 30 history students into 6 debate teams, with each team consisting of a secretary to take notes during the debates and *x* debaters. The solution of the equation 6(x + 1) = 30 represents the number of debaters on each team. Solve the equation and write a reason for each step.