

Math 71  
Chapter 1 Notes

**Order of Operations:**

Parenthesis and Exponents  
Multiplication and Division  
Addition and Subtraction

**Properties:**

Commutative Property of Addition

$$a + b = b + a$$

Commutative Property of Multiplication

$$a \cdot b = b \cdot a$$

Associative Property of Addition

$$a + (b + c) = (a + b) + c$$

Associative Property of Multiplication

$$a \cdot (b \cdot c) = (a \cdot b) \cdot c$$

Distributive Property

$$a(b + c) = ab + ac$$

Identity Property of Addition

$$a + 0 = 0 + a = a$$

Identity Property of Multiplication

$$a \cdot 1 = 1 \cdot a = a$$

Inverse Property of Addition

$$a + (-a) = 0$$

Inverse Property of Multiplication

$$a \cdot \frac{1}{a} = 1$$

**Like Terms** are terms that have exactly the same variable factors.

A **linear equation** in one variable  $x$  is an equation that can be written

$$ax + b = 0$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are real numbers, and  $a \neq 0$ .

An equation that is true for all real numbers for which both sides are defined is called an **identity**.

A **conditional equation** is an equation that is not an identity, but that is true for at least one real number.

An **inconsistent equation**, also called a contradiction, is an equation that is not true for even one real number.

## Strategy for Solving Word Problems

1. Read the problem carefully. Attempt to state the problem in your own words and state what the problem is looking for. Let  $x$  represent one of the quantities in the problem.
2. If necessary, write expressions for any other unknown quantities in terms of  $x$ .
3. Write an equation in  $x$  that describes the verbal conditions of the problem.
4. Solve the equation and answer the problem's question in a complete sentence.
5. Make sure your answer makes sense.

## Exponent Rules

$b^n$  where  $b$  is the base and  $n$  is the exponent  
 $b^n = b \cdot b \cdot b \cdot b \cdot \dots \cdot b$   $n$  times

$$b^n \cdot b^m = b^{n+m}$$

$$\frac{b^n}{b^m} = b^{n-m}, b \neq 0$$

$$(b^n)^m = b^{n \cdot m}$$

$$b^0 = 1, b \neq 0$$

$$b^{-n} = \frac{1}{b^n}, b \neq 0$$

$$(ab)^n = a^n \cdot b^n$$

$$\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^n = \frac{a^n}{b^n}, b \neq 0$$

Examples:

Solve and check each linear equation.

$$2(x - 4) + 3(x + 5) = 2x - 2$$

$$2x - 4(5x + 1) = 3x + 17 - 1$$

$$\frac{3x + 1}{3} - \frac{13}{2} = \frac{1 - x}{4}$$

$$7x + 5 = 5(x + 3) + 2x$$

$$7x + 13 = 3x - 10 + 2x + 23$$

$$(2x - 3)2 - 3(x + 1) = (x - 2)4 - 3(x + 5)$$

$$4(x - 3) + 5 = x + 5(x - 2)$$

Simplify each exponential expression. Assume that no denominators are zero. Leave no negative exponents in your answers.

$$(-3x^7)(-5x^6)$$

$$\left(\frac{3xy^3}{5x^{-3}y^{-4}}\right)^2$$

$$(3x^4y^{-2})(-2x^5y^{-3})$$

$$2^{-2} + \frac{1}{2}x^0$$

$$\frac{12x^7}{4x^{-3}}$$

Find two numbers such that the second number is 3 more than twice the first number and the sum of the two numbers is 72.

The length of a rectangular field exceeds the width by 260 yards. If the perimeter is 1000 yards, what are the dimensions?

After a 60% reduction, a jacket sold for \$20. What was the jacket's price before the reduction?