

Constraint Check

Model limits, then test choices.

HIGH SCHOOL • HSA-CED.A.3

CCSS.Math.Content.HSA-CED.A.3 "Represent constraints by equations or inequalities, and by systems of equations and/or inequalities, and interpret solutions as viable or nonviable options in a modeling context. For example..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

BUILD AND TEST SYSTEMS

Write one inequality for each limit in the situation. A choice is viable only if it makes every inequality in the system true.

WORKED EXAMPLE

A theater sells x student tickets and y adult tickets. It can sell at most 23 tickets and needs at least 9 student tickets. Is $(12, 8)$ viable?

1. Write: $x + y \leq 23$ and $x \geq 9$.
2. Substitute $x = 12$ and $y = 8$.
3. $20 \leq 23$ and $12 \geq 9$ are both true.

Answer: Yes, $(12, 8)$ is viable.

PRACTICE 5 problems

- 1** Let x be \$2 notebooks and y be \$3 folders. Write a system for spending no more than \$17 and buying at least 4 items.

ANSWER _____

- 2** Is $(6, 4)$ viable for $x + y \leq 13$, $x \geq 5$, and $y \geq 1$?

ANSWER _____

- 3** Let x be tutoring hours at \$6 per hour and y be job hours at \$4 per hour. Write a system for earning at least \$36 in no more than 7 total hours.

ANSWER _____

- 4** Is $(3, 5)$ viable for $2x + y \geq 10$, $x + y \leq 11$, $x \geq 0$, and $y \geq 0$?

ANSWER _____

- 5** A team needs at least 15 points. Each win is worth 3 points and each tie is worth 1 point. Write an inequality for x wins and y ties.

ANSWER _____

APPLY IT Show your work

- 1** A dance committee buys x snack boxes for \$3 each and y drink packs for \$2 each. It has at most \$18 and needs at least 7 total packs. Is $(4, 3)$ viable?

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

- 2** A student earns \$5 per hour dog walking and \$7 per hour tutoring. Let x be dog-walking hours and y be tutoring hours. The student wants at least \$35 and can work no more than 6 hours. Is $(4, 2)$ viable?

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

CHALLENGE One step up

CHALLENGE

A student prints x color pages for \$2 each and y black-and-white pages for \$1 each. The student can spend at most \$13, needs at least 7 pages, and needs at least 3 color pages. If $x = 4$, list all viable integer values of y .

PART 1 · PRACTICE

#	PROBLEM	ANSWER
1	Let x be \$2 notebooks and y be \$3 folders. Write a system for spending no more than \$17 and buying at least 4 items.	$2x + 3y \leq 17$; $x + y \geq 4$; x, y are nonnegative integers.
2	Is $(6, 4)$ viable for $x + y \leq 13$, $x \geq 5$, and $y \geq 1$?	Yes. $(6, 4)$ is viable.
3	Let x be tutoring hours at \$6 per hour and y be job hours at \$4 per hour. Write a system for earning at least \$36 in no more than 7 total hours.	$6x + 4y \geq 36$; $x + y \leq 7$; x, y are nonnegative.
4	Is $(3, 5)$ viable for $2x + y \geq 10$, $x + y \leq 11$, $x \geq 0$, and $y \geq 0$?	Yes. $(3, 5)$ is viable.
5	A team needs at least 15 points. Each win is worth 3 points and each tie is worth 1 point. Write an inequality for x wins and y ties.	$3x + y \geq 15$; x, y are nonnegative integers.

PART 2 · APPLY IT

- $3x + 2y \leq 18$; $x + y \geq 7$; x, y are nonnegative integers. Yes, $(4, 3)$ is viable.** The choice costs \$18 and has 7 packs, so it meets both constraints.
- $5x + 7y \geq 35$; $x + y \leq 6$; x, y are nonnegative. No, $(4, 2)$ is nonviable.** The choice uses 6 hours but earns only \$34, which is less than \$35.

CHALLENGE

$y = 3, 4$, or 5 .

Accept equivalent inequalities, reordered systems, and equivalent forms such as $17 \geq 2x + 3y$. For viability questions, students must check every constraint.