

Solve It Cleanly

Linear equations, inequalities, and variable coefficients

HIGH SCHOOL • AI-A.REI.3

AI-A.REI.3 "Solve linear equations and inequalities in one variable, including equations with coefficients represented by letters."

NAME _____

DATE _____

KEEP BOTH SIDES BALANCED

Use inverse operations to isolate x while keeping both sides of an equation balanced. When you multiply or divide both sides of an inequality by a negative number, reverse the inequality sign.

WORKED EXAMPLE

Solve $7x - 5 = 30$.

1. Add 5 to both sides.
2. $7x = 35$
3. Divide both sides by 7.
4. $x = 5$

Answer: $x = 5$

PRACTICE 6 problems

1 Solve $6x + 8 = 44$.

ANSWER _____

2 Solve $-3x + 14 = 2$.

ANSWER _____

3 Solve $(\frac{2}{3})x - 1 = 11$.

ANSWER _____

4 Solve $8(x - 4) = 64$.

ANSWER _____

5 Solve $ax + 16 = 40$ for x , where $a \neq 0$.

ANSWER _____

6 Solve $-9x + 27 \leq 0$.

ANSWER _____

APPLY IT Show your work

- 1** A music app charges a \$13 monthly fee plus \$2 for each song download. You can spend no more than \$31 this month. Write and solve an inequality to find the greatest number of songs, x , you can download.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

- 2** You earn \$15 per hour editing videos, but you pay \$18 for design software. How many hours, x , must you work to have \$72 left after paying for the software?

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

CHALLENGE One step up

Solve $b(x - 6) = 4x + 10$ for x . Also state what happens when $b = 4$, and state whether any value of b gives infinitely many solutions.

WORK SPACE AND ANSWER

PART 1 • PRACTICE

#	PROBLEM	ANSWER
1	Solve $6x + 8 = 44$.	$x = 6$
2	Solve $-3x + 14 = 2$.	$x = 4$
3	Solve $(2/3)x - 1 = 11$.	$x = 18$
4	Solve $8(x - 4) = 64$.	$x = 12$
5	Solve $ax + 16 = 40$ for x , where $a \neq 0$.	$x = 24/a$
6	Solve $-9x + 27 \leq 0$.	$x \geq 3$

PART 2 • APPLY IT

- 9 songs** Write $13 + 2x \leq 31$. Subtract 13, then divide by 2 to get $x \leq 9$, so the greatest whole number of songs is 9.
- 6 hours** Write $15x - 18 = 72$. Add 18 and divide by 15 to get $x = 6$.

CHALLENGE

$x = (6b + 10)/(b - 4)$ for $b \neq 4$. When $b = 4$, there is no solution. No value of b gives infinitely many solutions.

Accept algebraically equivalent forms of $x = 24/a$ and $x = (6b + 10)/(b - 4)$. For the music problem, accept $x \leq 9$ if the student also identifies 9 as the greatest whole-number number of songs.