

2.1 Solving Equations Introduction

Equation vs. Expression
 has an = does not have an =
 "Solve" "Simplify"

An equation is like: a balanced scale



- * maintain balance
- * operation done to one side must be done to the other side

GOAL: Get variable alone

- * use inverse operations to undo what was done to the variable

Page 1

Examples:

1. $x + 4 = 8$
 $x + 4 - 4 = 8 - 4$
 $x = 8 - 4$
 $x = 4$

* Subtract 4 from both sides

2. $5x = 30$
 $5x = 30$
 $x = \frac{30}{5}$
 $x = 6$

* divide by 5 on both sides

3. $y - 6 = 2$
 $y - 6 + 6 = 2 + 6$
 $y = 2 + 6$
 $y = 8$

* add 6 to both sides

4. $\frac{x}{4} = 7$
 $\frac{x}{4} = 7$
 $x = 7(4)$
 $x = 28$

* multiply by 4 on both sides

Page 2

5. $5 = x - 10$

* Add 10 to both sides

$5 + 10 = x$
 $15 = x$

6. $21 = -3b$

* Divide by -3 on both sides

$\frac{21}{-3} = \frac{-3b}{-3}$
 $-7 = b$

7. $3 + a = -4$

* Subtract 3 from both sides

$a = -4 - 3$
 $a = -7$

8. $\frac{1}{2}y = 8$

* Divide by $\frac{1}{2}$ on both sides

$y = 8 \div (\frac{1}{2})$
 $y = 16$

9. $-2 = m - 6$

* Add 6 to both sides

$-2 + 6 = m$
 $4 = m$

10. $-5 = -4 + d$

* Add 4 to both sides

$-5 + 4 = d$
 $-1 = d$

Page 3

HOMEWORK

Worksheet HW 2.1 Equation
Solving Intro

Page 4