

Compound Inequalities

Starter

1. (Review of last lesson)

Solve the inequalities, expressing your answer in algebraic and diagrammatic form:

(a) $4x - 3 < 25$

(b) $-3x + 4 \leq 25$

Notes

A compound inequality combines two inequalities into one.

For example, $1 < x \leq 5$ or $-4 \leq h \leq 2$.

In a compound inequality:

- The inequality signs must both *point to the left* (e.g. $< x <$)
- The *smaller number* is on the *left*
- The *bigger number* is on the *right*

$$\text{Smaller number} \leq x \leq \text{Bigger number}$$

For example, $3 < x \leq 9$ means that $x > 3$ and $x \leq 9$.

Success Criteria – solving compound inequalities

1. Write down two *separate* inequalities
2. *Solve* them *separately*
3. *Combine* the inequalities back into one

E.g. 1 Solve the inequalities:

(a) $8 < 3x - 10 < 23$

(b) $17 < 6x + 5 \leq 29$

(c) $7 < 15 - 4x < 39$

(d) $x - 19 \leq 5x - 3 < x + 5$

Working:

(a)

$$8 < 3x - 10 < 23$$

$$8 < 3x - 10 \qquad 3x - 10 < 23$$

$$18 < 3x \qquad 3x < 33$$

$$6 < x \qquad x < 11$$

Combine into 1 inequality: $6 < x < 11$

2 separate inequalities solve separately

Video: [Solving inequalities \(two signs\)](#)

[Solutions to Starter and E.g.s](#)

Exercise

9-1 class textbook:	p509 M16.1 Qu 2ef, 4-7
A*-G class textbook:	p465 M16.1 Qu 2ef, 4, 6
9-1 homework book:	p171 M16.1 Qu 2, 4bc, 5, 6c, 7
A*-G homework book:	p509 M16.1 Qu 2, 4bc, 6c

Summary

Compound inequality: $\text{Smaller number} \leq x \leq \text{Bigger number}$

Solving compound inequalities:

1. Write down two *separate* inequalities
2. *Solve* them *separately*
3. *Combine* the inequalities back into one

[Homework book answers \(only available during a lockdown\)](#)