

Equations with brackets

Starter

1. (Review of last lesson)

Solve: (a) $9 - 4x = 33$

(b) $7 - 2x = 2x - 7$

Working: (a)

Add $4x$ to both sides:

Subtract 33 from both sides:

Divide by 4:

Make sure the unknown is on the LHS:

$$9 - 4x = 33$$

$$9 = 33 + 4x$$

$$-24 = 4x$$

$$-6 = x$$

$$x = -6$$

(b)

Add $2x$ to both sides:

Add 7 to both sides:

Divide both sides by 4:

Make sure the unknown is on the LHS:

$$7 - 2x = 2x - 7$$

$$7 = 4x - 7$$

$$14 = 4x$$

$$\frac{14}{4} = x$$

$$x = 3.5$$

2. (Review of previous material)

Expand: (a) $5(2x - 7)$

(b) $-3(4x - 9)$

Working: (a) $5(2x - 7) = 10x - 35$

(b) $-3(4x - 9) = -12x + 27$

3. (Review of previous material) Solve the equation $7(x + 5) = 40$.

Working:

Expand the brackets:

Subtract 35 from both sides:

Divide both sides by 7:

$$7(x + 5) = 40$$

$$7x + 35 = 40$$

$$7x = 5$$

$$x = \frac{5}{7}$$

$$x = \frac{5}{7}$$

E.g. 1 Solve: (a) $6(3 - 2x) = 56$

(b) $17 = -9(4x - 1)$

Working: (a)

Expand the brackets:

Add $12x$ to both sides:

Subtract 56 from both sides:

Divide both sides by 12:

Make sure the unknown is on the LHS:

$$6(3 - 2x) = 56$$

$$18 - 12x = 56$$

$$18 = 56 + 12x$$

$$-38 = 12x$$

$$-\frac{38}{12} = x$$

$$x = -\frac{19}{6}$$

$$x = -\frac{19}{6}$$

(b)

Expand the brackets:

Add $36x$ to both sides:

Subtract 17 from both sides:

Divide both sides by 12:

$$17 = -9(4x - 1)$$

$$17 = -36x + 9$$

$$17 + 36x = 9$$

$$36x = -8$$

$$x = -\frac{8}{36} = -\frac{2}{9}$$

$$x = -\frac{2}{9}$$

E.g. 2 Solve:

(a) $2(3x - 1) = 3(x - 1)$

(c) $4(x - 1) = 3(2 - x)$

(b) $7x = 3x - (x + 20)$

(d) $10x - (2x - 3) = 21$

Working:

(a)

Expand the brackets:

Subtract $3x$ from both sides:

Add 2 to both sides:

Divide both sides by 3:

$$2(3x - 1) = 3(x - 1)$$

$$6x - 2 = 3x - 3$$

$$3x - 2 = -3$$

$$3x = -1$$

$$x = -\frac{1}{3}$$

(b)

Expand the brackets:

Collect like terms:

Subtract $2x$ from both sides:

Divide both sides by 5:

$$7x = 3x - (x + 20)$$

$$7x = 3x - 1(x + 20)$$

$$7x = 3x - x - 20$$

$$7x = 2x - 20$$

$$5x = -20$$

$$x = -4$$

(c)

Expand the brackets:

Add $3x$ to both sides:

Add 4 to both sides:

Divide both sides by 7:

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

$$4x - 4 = 6 - 3x$$

$$7x - 4 = 6$$

$$7x = 10$$

$$x = \frac{10}{7}$$

(d)

Expand the brackets:

Collect like terms:

Subtract 3 from both sides:

Divide both sides by 8:

$$10x - (2x - 3) = 21$$

$$10x - 1(2x - 3) = 21$$

$$10x - 2x + 3 = 21$$

$$8x + 3 = 21$$

$$8x = 18$$

$$x = \frac{18}{8} = \frac{9}{4}$$

Video:

[How to solve linear equations with brackets](#)

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

Exercise

9-1 class textbook:

p159 M6.2 Qu 1-32 odd

A*-G class textbook:

p149 M6.2 Qu 1-29 odd

9-1 homework book:

p56 M6.2 Qu 1-23

A*-G homework book:

p41 M6.2 Qu 1-21