## Chapter 4: <br> Solving Literal <br> Equations



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

## Warm-Up

The solution of the equation $5-2 x=-4 x-7$ is
(1) 1
(3) -2
(2) 2
(4) -6

## What is a literal equation?

A literal equation is an equation with two or more variables. Instead of solving for a numerical value, we solve for one variable in terms of another. A formula is one type of literal equation that has special applications in math or science.

Observe the similarities between the linear equation (left) and the literal equation (right):
One-Step Linear Equation:
One-Step Literal Equation:

| 1) $y+10=55$ | 2) $y+x=55$ solve for $y$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| 3) $s-40=85$ solve for $s$ | 4) $s-x=85$ solve for $s$ |

Two-Step Linear Equation:


Two-Step Literal Equation:
6) $2 a-b=c$ solve for $a$

Solving for a variable using division:

| $7 x=45$ | $8) \quad 3 x=y$ solve for $x$ |
| :--- | :--- |
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## Quick Check for Understanding

9) $2 x+y=9$ solve for $y \quad$ 10) $-3 b-c=d$ solve for $b$ 11) $\quad P=m v \quad$ solve for $m$

## Application

12) The formula $d=r t$ relates the distance an object travels, $d$, to its average rate of speed $r$, and amount of time $t$ that it travels.
a) Solve the formula $d=r t$ for $t$.
b) How many hours would it take for a car to travel 150 miles at an average rate of 50 miles per hour?

Independent Practice Solve for the variable indicated.

| 1) $d=r t$ Solve for $r$ | 2) $P=a+b$ Solve for $b$ |
| :--- | :--- |
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|  |  |


| 9) $s=r \theta$ Solve for $r$ | 10) $E=I R$ Solve for $R$ |
| :--- | :--- |

17) The volume of a prism is $V=l w h$.
a) Solve this formula for $h$.
b) If the volume of a prism is 64 , its length 4 , and its width 2 , what is its height?

## Summary



Homework
Chapter 4- Day 1 -Textbook pp. 109-110 \#2, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 20, 23, 26, 36-37

Day 2: Solving Literal Equations with Proportions
A-REI. 3 Solve linear equations and inequalities in one variable, including equations with coefficients represented by letters.

Warm-Up
If $3 a x+b=c$, then $x$ equals
$1 c-b+3 a$
$2 c+b-3 a$
$3 \frac{c-b}{3 a}$
$4 \quad \frac{b-c}{3 a}$

Model Problems Solving Proportions
Solve for x in each equation.
Linear Equations:

## Literal Equation:

| 1$) \frac{x}{3}=9$ | $2) \frac{x}{3}=y$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |


| 5) $10=\frac{2}{3}(\mathrm{x}-4)$ | 6) $D=\frac{11}{5}(x-15)$ |
| :--- | :--- |

## Application

7) The formula to convert Celsius to Fahrenheit is given by $C=\frac{5}{9}(F-32)$.
a) Solve this formula for $F$.
b) The boiling point of water is $100^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. What is the Fahrenheit equivalent of this temperature?
8) Check for Understanding Solve for the given variable.

| a) $\quad d=\frac{c}{n}$ solve for $n$ | $A=\frac{a+b}{2}$ solve for $b$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

d) The formula for the mean (average) $A$ of two numbers $y$ and $z$ is one-half their sum, or $A=\frac{1}{2}(y+z)$. If the average of two numbers is 7 and one of the numbers is 4 , find the other number.

Cumulative Independent Practice Days 1-2 Solve for the value of the variable.

| 1) $\frac{m}{k}=x$ for $k$ | 2) $V=\frac{1}{3}$ Ah for $A$ |
| :--- | :--- |


| 3) $s=\frac{1}{2} g t^{2}$ for $g$ | 4) $s=\frac{w-10 e}{m}$ for $w$ |
| :--- | :--- |


| 9) $\frac{x-y}{7}=t$ for $y$ | 10) $P=R-C$ for $C$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| 11) $R=\frac{C-S}{t}$ for $C$ | 12) $2 x+7 y=14$ for $y$ |
| 13) $m=\frac{y_{2}-y_{1}}{x_{2}-x_{1}}$ for $y_{2}$ | 14) $\quad V=\frac{2}{3}(x+2 y)$ for $x$ |

15) The formula $V=\frac{1}{3} \pi r^{2} h$ is the formula for the volume of a cylinder. To the nearest tenth, what is the height of a cylinder with volume $100 \mathrm{~cm}^{3}$ and radius 2 cm ?

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

## Warm-Up

The formula $P=2(L+W)$ is the formula for the perimeter of a rectangle. Solve this formula for $L$. What is the length of a rectangle whose perimeter is 48 and whose width is 6 ?

## Distribution and Reverse distribution

1) When there is a common factor in all terms of an expression, we can use the distributive property in reverse to write it in factored form.

| Simplest form | Factored Form |
| :--- | :--- |
| a) $2 L+2 W$ | $2(L+W)$ |
| b) $3 a-3 b$ |  |
| c) $2 l w+2 l$ |  |
| d) $\quad f b+f a$ |  |
| e) $2 \pi r h+2 \pi r^{2}$ |  |

2) Model Problem Using the Distributive Property in Reverse

Solve for $c$ in terms of $a$ and $b: a c+b c=a b$

| a)If $a+a r=b+r$, the value of $a$ in terms of $b$ and $r$ <br> can be expressed as | b) <br> If $k=a m+3 m x$, the value of $m$ in terms of $a, k$, and <br> $x$ can be expressed as |
| :--- | :--- |
|  |  |

## Using Rational Equations

4) Model Problem

The formula $\frac{1}{a}+\frac{1}{b}=\frac{1}{f}$ relates an object's distance, $a$, and its image's distance, $b$, to the focal length of the lens, $f$. Solve this formula for $f$.
5) Practice

The total resistance in a circuit is given by the formula $\frac{1}{R}=\frac{1}{R_{1}}+\frac{1}{R_{2}}$. Solve this formula for $R_{1}$.

Unit Summary So Far:

| Look for STRUCTURE in equations: |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| One- or Two-Step Equations | Proportions |
| $A x+B=C$ | $x+b=c$ |
| Reverse Distribution (Common Factor) | $D=\frac{M}{V} \quad K=\frac{1}{2} m v^{2} \quad \bar{x}=\frac{x_{1}+x_{2}}{2}$ |
| $S=2 \pi r^{2}+2 \pi r h$ | Rational Equations (Sums and Differences) |
|  | $\frac{1}{C}=\frac{1}{C_{1}}+\frac{1}{C_{2}}$ |

Cumulative Practice/Homework Chapter 4 - Day 3 Solve for the requested variable.

| 1) $r=p n$ for $n$ | 2) $V=\frac{1}{3}$ Bh for $B$ |
| :--- | :--- |


| 5) $J=m v_{f}-m v_{i}$ for $m$ | 6) $E=I R$ for $I$ |
| :--- | :--- |


| 11) $U=\frac{1}{2} Q V$ for $V$ | 12) $z+y=x+x y^{2}$ for $x$ |
| :--- | :--- |

Multiple Choice Practice.

| 17$)$ | $18)$ |
| :--- | :--- |

The formula $V=\frac{B h}{3}$ shows how to find the volume of a pyramid. Solve for $B$.
F $B=\frac{3 V}{h} \quad H B=3 V h$
G $B=3 V-h \quad J B=3 V+h$
The cost of operating an electrical device is given by the formula $C=\frac{W t c}{1000}$ where $W$ is the power in watts, $t$ is the time in hours, and $c$ is the cost in cents per kilowatt-hour. Solve for $W$.
F W = $1000 C-t c$
G $W=\frac{C t c}{1000}$
$H W=1000 C+t c$
$\mathrm{J} W=\frac{1000 C}{t c}$

## Real-World Application.

19) The cost to mail a letter in the United States in 2008 was $\$ 0.41$ for the first ounce and $\$ 0.26$ for each additional ounce. Solve
$C=0.41+0.26(z-1)$ for $z$.

If Patty paid 0.93 to mail her letter, how many
ounces was it? $(C=$ cost, $z=$ ounces $)$

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

## Warm-Up

The formula for the volume of a pyramid is
$V=\frac{1}{3} B h$. What is $h$ expressed in terms of $B$ and
$V$ ?
$1 \quad h=\frac{1}{3} V B$
$2 h=\frac{V}{3 B}$
$3 h=\frac{3 V}{B}$
$4 h=3 V B$

## Mini-Lesson: Using Square Roots

To solve for a squared variable, take its square root.

| Linear Equation: $\quad 64=16 x^{2}$ | Literal Equation: $A=\pi r^{2}$ solve for $r$ |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
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Check for Understanding $\quad$ Solve for the indicated variable.

1) The formula for kinetic energy is $K=\frac{1}{2} m v^{2}$. Write an expression for $v$ in terms of $K$ and $m$.
2) The gravitational force $F$ that two planetary bodies exert on one another is given by $F=\frac{G m_{1} m_{2}}{r^{2}}$. Solve this formula for $r$.

Cumulative Practice/Homework Solve for the value of the indicated variable.

| 1) $V=l w h$ | 2) $s=\frac{1}{2}$ at ${ }^{2}$ solve for $t$ |
| :--- | :--- |
|  |  |
| Solve for $h$ |  |
| 3) $A=\frac{1}{2} h\left(b_{1}+b_{2}\right)$ | 4) Solve for $r: \frac{p+r}{3}=m+5$ |
| 5) Solve $R=\frac{l+3 w}{2}$ for $w$ |  |


| 7) $A=2 \pi r h+2 \pi r^{2}$ Solve for $\pi$ | Rewrite $K=\frac{3}{2} k T$ solved for $T$ in terms of $k$ and $T$. |
| :--- | :--- |
| 9) $q-3 r=2$ Solve for $r$ |  |

## Regents Practice.

| 13) <br> The formula for the volume of a cone is $V=\frac{1}{3} \pi r^{2} h$. The radius, $r$, of the cone may be expressed as <br> $1 \sqrt{\frac{3 V}{\pi h}}$ <br> $2 \sqrt{\frac{V}{3 \pi h}}$ <br> $33 \sqrt{\frac{V}{\pi h}}$ <br> $4 \quad \frac{1}{3} \sqrt{\frac{V}{\pi h}}$ | 14) <br> The distance a free falling object has traveled can be modeled by the equation $d=\frac{1}{2} a t^{2}$, where $a$ is acceleration due to gravity and $t$ is the amount of time the object has fallen. What is $t$ in terms of $a$ and $d$ ? <br> $1 t=\sqrt{\frac{d a}{2}}$ <br> $2 t=\sqrt{\frac{2 d}{a}}$ <br> $3 t=\left(\frac{d a}{d}\right)^{2}$ <br> $4 \quad t=\left(\frac{2 d}{a}\right)^{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| 15) <br> The volume of a large can of tuna fish can be calculated using the formula $V=\pi r^{2} h$. Write an equation to find the radius, $r$, in terms of $V$ and $h$. Determine the diameter, to the nearest inch, of a large can of tuna fish that has a volume of 66 cubic inches and a height of 3.3 inches. | 16) <br> The formula for the area of a trapezoid is $A=\frac{1}{2} h\left(b_{1}+b_{2}\right)$. Express $b_{1}$ in terms of $A, h$, and $b_{2}$. The area of a trapezoid is 60 square feet, its height is 6 ft , and one base is 12 ft . Find the number of feet in the other base. |

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

Look for STRUCTURE in equations:

| One-Step Equations |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| 1) $I=$ prt Solve for $r$. | 2) $T=M-N$ Solve for $M$. |
|  |  |
| Two-Step Equations |  |
| 3) $5 t-2 r=25$ Solve for $t$. | 4) $v t-16 t^{2}$ Solve for $v$. |


| Proportions |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| 5) $F=\frac{l}{d}$ Solve for $l$. | 6) $P=\frac{144 p}{y}$ Solve for $p$. |
|  |  |


| Reverse Distribution |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 9) $S=R-r R \quad$ Solve for $R$. | 10) $a x=b x+c \quad$ Solve for $x$. |

Applications. The surface area of a sphere is given by the formula $S=4 \pi r^{2}$. Solve this formula for $r$. What is the radius of a sphere whose surface area is $201 \mathrm{~cm}^{2}$ ?

