Solving Equations Using Addition or Subtraction

Essential Question How can you use addition or subtraction to solve an equation?

If two sides of a scale weigh the same, the scale will balance.



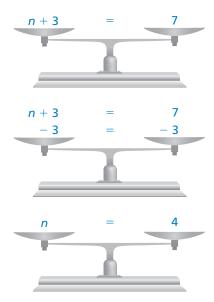
If you add or subtract the same amount on each side of the scale, it will still balance.



EXAMPLE: Solving an Equation Using Subtraction

Use a scale to model and solve n + 3 = 7.

Think of a scale with both sides in balance. Whatever you add to or subtract from one side, you need to do the same on the other side to keep the scale in balance.



When n + 3 is on one side and 7 is on the other side, the scale is balanced.

Your goal is to get *n* by itself on one side. To do this, subtract 3 from each side.

Simplify each side. The remaining value is the solution.

• So,
$$n = 4$$
.

Check

You can check the solution by substituting 4 for *n* in the original equation.

$$4 + 3 = 7$$



2 ACTIVITY: Solving Equations Using Mental Math

Work with a partner. Write a question that represents the equation. Use mental math to answer the question. Then check your solution.

Sample:

	Equation	Question	Solution	Check
:	a. $x + 3 = 7$	What number plus 3 equals 7?	x = 4	4 + 3 = 7
	b. $4 + m = 11$			
	c. $8 = a + 3$			
	d. $x - 9 = 21$			
	e. $13 = p - 4$			

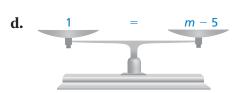
3 ACTIVITY: Solving Equations Using Addition or Subtraction

Work with a partner. Solve the equation using Example 1 as a sample.









What Is Your Answer?

- **4.** Decide whether the statement is *true* or *false*. If false, explain your reasoning.
 - a. In an equation, any letter can be used as a variable.
 - **b.** The goal in solving an equation is to get the variable by itself.
 - **c.** In the solution, the variable must always be on the left side of the equal sign.
 - **d.** If you add a number to one side, you should subtract it from the other side.
 - e. If you add a number to one side, you should add it to the other side.
- **5. IN YOUR OWN WORDS** How can you use addition or subtraction to solve an equation? Give two examples to show how your procedure works.

Practice

Use what you learned about solving equations to complete Exercises 12–17 on page 287.



Key Vocabulary ■

solution, p. 284 inverse operations, p. 285

Reading

The symbol ≠ means "is not equal to."

A **solution** of an equation is a value that makes the equation true.

Value of x	x + 3 = 7	Are both sides equal?
3	$3 + 3 \stackrel{?}{=} 7$ $6 \neq 7$	no
4	$4 + 3 \stackrel{?}{=} 7$ $7 = 7 \checkmark$	yes
5	$5 + 3 \stackrel{?}{=} 7$ $8 \neq 7$	no

So, the value x = 4 is a solution of the equation x + 3 = 7.

EXAMPLE

1 Checking Solutions

Tell whether the given value is a solution of the equation.

a.
$$p + 10 = 38$$
; $p = 18$

$$\frac{18}{18} + 10 \stackrel{?}{=} 38$$

 $28 \neq 38$

Substitute 18 for *p*.

Sides are *not* equal.



So, p = 18 is not a solution.

b.
$$4y = 56$$
; $y = 14$

$$4(14) \stackrel{?}{=} 56$$

Substitute 14 for *y*.

Sides are equal.



So, y = 14 is a solution.

On Your Own



Tell whether the given value is a solution of the equation.

1.
$$a + 6 = 17$$
; $a = 9$

2.
$$9 - g = 5$$
; $g = 3$

3.
$$35 = 7n$$
; $n = 5$

4.
$$\frac{q}{2} = 28$$
; $q = 14$

You can use *inverse operations* to solve equations. **Inverse operations** "undo" each other. Addition and subtraction are inverse operations.



Addition Property of Equality

Words If you add the same number to each side of an equation, the two sides remain equal.

Numbers
$$8 = 8$$
 $\frac{+5}{13} = \frac{+5}{13}$

Algebra
$$x-4=5$$

$$\frac{+4}{x} = \frac{+4}{9}$$

Subtraction Property of Equality

Words If you subtract the same number from each side of an equation, the two sides remain equal.

Numbers
$$8 = 8$$

$$\frac{-5}{3} \frac{-5}{3}$$

Algebra
$$x + 4 = 5$$

$$\frac{-4}{x} = \frac{-4}{1}$$

EXAMPLE

Solving Equations Using Addition

a. Solve
$$x - 2 = 6$$
.

$$x - 2 = 6$$

Write the equation.

Undo the subtraction.
$$+2$$
 $+2$

Add 2 to each side.

$$x = 8$$

Simplify.

The solution is
$$x = 8$$
.

Check

$$x - 2 = 6$$

$$8 - 2 \stackrel{?}{=} 6$$

Study Tip

You can check your solution by substituting it for the variable in the original equation.

b. Solve 18 = x - 7.

$$18 = x - 7$$

18 = x - 7 Write the equation.

Add 7 to each side.

$$25 = x$$

Simplify.

The solution is x = 25.

Check

$$18 = x - 7$$

$$18 \stackrel{?}{=} 25 - 7$$

On Your Own

Solve the equation. Check your solution.

Now You're Ready

Fxercises
$$18-20$$

Solve the equation $k-3=1$

6.
$$n-10=4$$

7.
$$15 = r - 6$$

EXAMPLE

Solving Equations Using Subtraction

a. Solve x + 2 = 9.

$$x + 2 = 9$$

Write the equation.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & -2 & -2 \\
x & = & 7
\end{array}$$

Subtract 2 from each side.

• The solution is x = 7.

Check

$$x + 2 = 9$$

$$7 + 2 \stackrel{?}{=} 9$$

$$9 = 9$$

b. Solve 26 = 11 + x.

$$26 = 11 + x$$

Write the equation.

Subtract 11 from each side.

$$15 = x$$
 Simplify.

• The solution is x = 15.

Check

$$26 = 11 + x$$

$$26 \stackrel{?}{=} 11 + 15$$

EXAMPLE

Real-Life Application

You climb 23 feet on a rock climbing wall. Write and solve an equation to find the distance to the top.

Words

climbed

The distance plus the distance is the height of to the top

the wall.

Variable

Let d be the distance to the top.

Equation

23

+

48

23 + d = 48Write the equation.

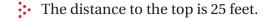
-23

Subtract 23 from each side.

$$d = 25$$

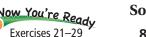
Simplify.

d





On Your Own



Solve the equation. Check your solution.

8.
$$s + 8 = 17$$

9.
$$9 = y + 6$$

10.
$$13 + m = 20$$

11. You eat 8 blueberries from a package. There are 31 blueberries left. Write and solve an equation to find the number of blueberries in a full package.

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Vocabulary and Concept Check

1. **WRITING** How can you check the solution of an equation?

Name the inverse operation you can use to solve the equation.

2.
$$x - 8 = 12$$

3.
$$n+3=13$$

4.
$$b + 14 = 33$$

5. WRITING When solving x + 5 = 16, why do you subtract 5 from the left side of the equation? Why do you subtract 5 from the right side of the equation?



> Practice and Problem Solving

Tell whether the given value is a solution of the equation.

1 6.
$$x + 42 = 85$$
; $x = 43$

43 **7.**
$$8b = 48$$
; $b = 6$

8.
$$19 - g = 7$$
; $g = 15$

9.
$$\frac{m}{4} = 16$$
; $m = 4$

10.
$$w + 23 = 41$$
; $w = 28$

11.
$$s - 68 = 11$$
; $s = 79$

Use a scale to model and solve the equation.

12.
$$n+7=9$$

13.
$$t-4=5$$

14.
$$c + 2 = 8$$

Write a question that represents the equation. Use mental math to answer the question. Then check your solution.

15.
$$a + 5 = 12$$

16.
$$v + 9 = 18$$

17.
$$20 = d - 6$$

Solve the equation. Check your solution.

2 18.
$$y - 7 = 3$$

19.
$$z - 3 = 13$$

20.
$$8 = r - 14$$

3 **21.**
$$p + 5 = 8$$

22.
$$k + 6 = 18$$

23.
$$64 = h + 30$$

24.
$$f - 27 = 19$$

25.
$$25 = q + 14$$

26.
$$\frac{3}{4} = j - \frac{1}{2}$$

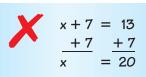
27.
$$x + \frac{2}{3} = \frac{9}{10}$$

28.
$$1.2 = m - 2.5$$

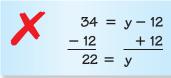
29.
$$a + 5.5 = 17.3$$

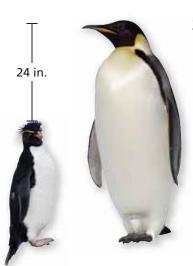
ERROR ANALYSIS Describe and correct the error in solving the equation.

30.

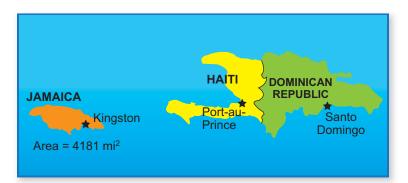


31.





- **32. PENGUINS** An emperor penguin is 45 inches tall. It is 24 inches taller than a rockhopper penguin. Write and solve an equation to find the height of a rockhopper penguin.
 - **33. ELEVATOR** You get in an elevator and go down 8 floors. You exit on the 16th floor. Write and solve an equation to find what floor you got on the elevator.



- **34. AREA** The area of Jamaica is 6460 square miles less than the area of Haiti. Write and solve an equation to find the area of Haiti.
- **35. REASONING** The solution of the equation x + 3 = 12 is shown. Write the property used for each step.

$$x + 3 = 12$$
 Write the equation.
 $x + 3 - 3 = 12 - 3$
 $x + 0 = 9$
 $x = 9$

Write the word sentence as an equation. Then solve the equation.

- **36.** 13 subtracted from a number *w* is 15.
- **37.** A number k increased by 7 is 34.
- **38.** 9 is the difference of a number n and 7. **39.** 93 is the sum of a number g and 58.

Solve the equation. Check your solution.

40.
$$b + 7 + 12 = 30$$

41.
$$y + 4 - 1 = 18$$

42.
$$m + 18 + 23 = 71$$

43.
$$v - 7 = 9 + 12$$

44.
$$5 + 44 = 2 + r$$

47. Perimeter = 132 in.

45.
$$22 + 15 = d - 17$$

GEOMETRY Write and solve an addition equation to find x.

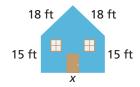
46. Perimeter = 48 ft

12 ft

Х

20 ft

- 16 in. 34 in. 34 in.
- **48.** Perimeter = 93 ft



- **49. REASONING** Explain why the equations x + 4 = 13 and 4 + x = 13 have the same solution.
- **50. REASONING** Explain why the equations x 13 = 4 and 13 x = 4 do *not* have the same solution.

51. SIMPLIFYING AND SOLVING Compare and contrast the two problems.

Simplify the expression
$$2(x + 3) - 4$$
.
 $2(x + 3) - 4 = 2x + 6 - 4$
 $= 2x + 2$

Solve the equation
$$x + 3 = 4$$
.

$$x + 3 = 4$$

$$-3 = -3$$

$$x = 1$$

а	37	16
19	25	b
34	с	28

52. PUZZLE In a *magic square*, the sum of the numbers in each row, column, and diagonal is the same. Write and solve equations to find the values of *a*, *b*, and *c*.



- **53. AMUSEMENT PARK** You have \$15.
 - a. Write and solve three equations to find the cost *r* of the roller coaster, the cost *g* of the giant slide, and the cost *f* of the Ferris wheel.
 - **b.** How much money do you have left if you ride each ride once?
- 54. Consider the equation x + y = 15. The value of x increases by 3. What has to happen to the value of y so that x + y = 15 remains true?



Fair Game Review What you learned in previous grades & lessons

Find the product or quotient.

55.
$$12 \times 8$$

- **59. MULTIPLE CHOICE** The figure is made up of a trapezoid and a semicircle. What is the perimeter of the figure? Use 3.14 for π .
 - (**A**) 32 in.
- **(B)** 39.41 in.
- **©** 52.41 in.
- **D** 59.82 in.

