

Literal Equations Notes

An _____ is a mathematical sentence that contains an _____ (_____).

Example: _____

A _____ is an _____ that states a _____ for the relationship between certain _____.

Example: _____

What does _____, _____, and _____ stand for?

What it means to _____:

-To solve for _____ would mean to get _____ by itself on _____ side of the equation, with no _____'s on the other side. (_____)

-Similarly, to solve for _____ would mean to get _____ by itself on _____ side of the equation, with no _____'s on the other side. (_____)

Literal Equations:

-A _____ is an equation in which the _____ and _____ have been replaced by _____.

Example: $ax + b = c$

-When _____ literal equations and formulas, you will _____ the same _____ as when solving _____ equations.

-You will always be given an _____ or _____ and asked to solve for a specific _____.

Example: For both equations, solve for x .

$4x + 3 = 15$	$ax + b = c$
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What is similar about solving the two equations?

What is different about solving the two equations?

How is the solution of a literal equation useful?

Example:

In the distance formula, $d = rt$, d is _____, r is _____ of speed, and t is _____.

How could you find t if you knew d and r ?

James will travel 250 miles from Savannah to Atlanta. If he drives at an average speed of 50 miles per hour (mph), how much time will he spend driving?

First: Rewrite the given formula to isolate _____.

Second: Substitute the given information into the _____ formula.

Example:

Use the information above to calculate how much time James will spend driving if he drives 250 miles at an average speed of 25 miles per hour (mph).

Literal Equations Notes

An equation is a mathematical sentence that contains an equal sign ($=$).

Example: $y = 3x$

A formula is an equation that states a rule for the relationship between certain quantities.

Example: $A = lw$

What does A, l, and w stand for?

A = Area of a rectangle l = length w = width

What it means to Solve:

-To solve for x would mean to get x by itself on one side of the equation, with no x's on the other side. ($x = \text{---}$)

-Similarly, to solve for y would mean to get y by itself on one side of the equation, with no y's on the other side. ($y = \text{---}$)

Literal Equations:

-A literal equation is an equation in which the coefficients and constants have been replaced by variables.

Example: $ax + b = c$

-When Solving literal equations and formulas, you will follow the same steps as when solving specific equations.

-You will always be given an equation or formula and asked to solve for a specific variable.

Example: For both equations, solve for x.

$ \begin{array}{r} 4x + 3 = 15 \\ -3 \quad -3 \\ \hline 4x = 12 \\ \frac{4x}{4} = \frac{12}{4} \\ \boxed{x = 3} \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} ax + b = c \\ -b \quad -b \\ \hline ax = c - b \\ \frac{ax}{a} = \frac{c - b}{a} \\ \boxed{x = \frac{c - b}{a}} \end{array} $
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What is similar about solving the two equations?

They involve the same steps to isolate the variable, x .

What is different about solving the two equations?

one solution is not a #, it's an expression

How is the solution of a literal equation useful?

Provides a rule for calculating the solution directly.

Example:

In the distance formula, $d = rt$, d is distance, r is rate of speed, and t is time.

How could you find t if you knew d and r ? Solve for t

James will travel 250 miles from Savannah to Atlanta. If he drives at an average speed of 50 miles per hour (mph), how much time will he spend driving?

First: Rewrite the given formula to isolate t .

$$\frac{d}{r} = \frac{rt}{r}$$

$$t = \frac{d}{r}$$

Second: Substitute the given information into the new formula.

$$d = 250 \text{ miles}$$

$$r = 50 \text{ mph}$$

$$t = \frac{d}{r} = \frac{250}{50} = \boxed{5 \text{ hours}}$$

Example:

Use the information above to calculate how much time James will spend driving if he drives 250 miles at an average speed of 25 miles per hour (mph).

$$t = \frac{d}{r} = \frac{250 \text{ miles}}{25 \text{ mph}} = \boxed{10 \text{ hours}}$$