

Review on Rational Equations and Word Problems

Solve the following equations. List any restrictions and check for extraneous solutions.

$x \neq -3$
LCD: $x+3$

(1) $\frac{2x}{x+3} = \frac{-6}{x+3} - 2$

$2x = -6 - 2(x+3)$
 $2x = -6 - 2x - 6$
 $4x = -12 \Rightarrow x = -3$

(2) $\frac{x}{x+2} = \frac{3}{2}$ $x \neq -2$

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

$x \neq 2$
LCD: $x-2$

(3) $\frac{x}{x-2} + 3 = \frac{2}{x-2}$

$x+3(x-2) = 2$
 $x+3x-6 = 2$
 $4x = 8 \Rightarrow x = 2$ No solution

(4) $\frac{4}{x-2} = \frac{7}{x^2+3x-10} - \frac{3}{x+5}$ $x \neq 2, -5$

LCD: $(x-2)(x+5)$
 $4(x+5) = 7-3(x-2)$
 $4x+20 = 7-3x+6$
 $7x = -7 \Rightarrow x = -1$

$x \neq \frac{3}{2}, -5$

(5) $\frac{5}{2x-3} = \frac{3}{x+5}$

$3(2x-3) = 5(x+5)$
 $6x-9 = 5x+25$
 $x = 34$

(6) $\frac{3}{x-2} = \frac{1}{x-1} + \frac{7}{x^2-3x+2}$ $x \neq 1, 2$

LCD: $(x-1)(x-2)$
 $3(x-1) = 1(x-2) + 7$
 $3x-3 = x-2+7$
 $2x = 8 \Rightarrow x = 4$

Solve for the indicated variable.

(7) $C = \frac{5}{9}(F-32)$ for F

$9C = 5(F-32)$
 $\frac{9}{5}C = F-32$
 $F = \frac{9}{5}C + 32$ OR $\frac{9C+160}{5}$

(8) $\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{a} = \frac{1}{b}$ for a

LCD: $3ab$
 $ab-3b = 3a$
 $-3b = 3a-ab$
 $-3b = a(3-b)$
 $a = \frac{-3b}{3-b}$ OR $\frac{3b}{b-3}$

(9) $xy^2 + xz^2 = xw^2 - 6$ for x

$xy^2 + xz^2 - xw^2 = -6$
 $x(y^2 + z^2 - w^2) = -6$
 $x = \frac{-6}{y^2 + z^2 - w^2}$

(10) $\frac{1}{w} + \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{y}$ for y

LCD: wxy
 $xy + wy = wx$
 $y(x+w) = wx$
 $y = \frac{wx}{x+w}$

Solve the following word problems.

- (11) It takes a person the same time to drive 150 miles as it takes a plane to fly 1350 miles. If the plane is flying 400 mi/h faster than the car, how fast is each traveling?
- (12) It took a woman the same time to drive 150 miles as it takes a train to travel 250 miles. If the train is traveling 20 mi/h faster than the woman is driving, find the rate at which each is traveling.
- (13) Wilma can mow the lawn in 3 hours. If Kyle helps her with another mower, the lawn can be mowed in 2 hours. How long would it take Kyle if he worked alone?
- (14) Ralph can paint a room in 2 hours, and Joy can paint the same room in 3 hours. If they work together, how long would it take them to paint the room?

11.

	R x T = D		
Drive	r	t	150
Fly	r+400	t	1350

$$\frac{R \times T = D}{R \quad R}$$

$$T = \frac{D}{R}$$

$$\frac{\text{Drive}}{t = \frac{150}{r}}$$

$$\frac{\text{Fly}}{t = \frac{1350}{r+400}}$$

$$\frac{150}{r} = \frac{1350}{r+400}$$

$$1350r = 150(r+400)$$

$$1350r = 150r + 60,000$$

$$1200r = 60,000$$

$$r = 50$$

Drive: 50 mph
Fly: 450 mph

12.

	R x T = D		
Woman	r	t	150
Train	r+20	t	250

$$\frac{R \times T = D}{R \quad R}$$

$$T = \frac{D}{R}$$

$$\frac{\text{Woman}}{t = \frac{150}{r}}$$

$$\frac{\text{Train}}{t = \frac{250}{r+20}}$$

$$\frac{150}{r} = \frac{250}{r+20}$$

$$250r = 150(r+20)$$

$$250r = 150r + 3000$$

$$100r = 3000$$

$$r = 30$$

Woman: 30 mph
Train: 50 mph

13.

	R x T = W		
Wilma	$\frac{1}{3}$	2	$\frac{2}{3}$
Kyle	$\frac{1}{x}$	2	$\frac{2}{x}$

$$\frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{x} = 1$$

LCD: 3x

$$2x + 6 = 3x$$

$$x = 6$$

Kyle alone: 6 hrs

14.

	R x T = W		
Ralph	$\frac{1}{2}$	t	$\frac{1}{2}t$
Joy	$\frac{1}{3}$	t	$\frac{1}{3}t$

$$\frac{1}{2}t + \frac{1}{3}t = 1$$

LCD: 6

$$3t + 2t = 6$$

$$5t = 6$$

$$t = \frac{6}{5}$$

Together: $\frac{1}{5}$ hrs