# 2.1: Algebraic Expressions

- Algebra uses letters, called variables, such as x and y, to represent numbers.
- Algebraic expressions are combinations of variables and numbers using the operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division as well as exponents or radicals.
- Examples of algebraic expressions:



## **Evaluating an Algebraic Expression**

Evaluate:  $7 + 5(x-4)^3$  for x = 6

Substitute the value of x in the algebraic expression and simplify.

### Solution:

 $7 + 5(x-4)^3 = 7 + 5(6-4)^3$  Replace *x* with 6

 $= 7 + 5(2)^3$  Solve inside parentheses

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- = 7 + 5(8) Evaluate exponent
- = 7 + 40 Multiply

$$= 47$$
 Add

### **Order of Operations Agreement = PEMDAS**

- Perform operations from within innermost grouping symbols to include [ { ( ) } ] Horizontal Division bars are also considered grouping symbols separating a numerator group from a denominator group
- 2. Evaluate all exponential expressions
- 3. Perform multiplications and divisions as they occur, working from <u>left to right</u>
- 4. Perform additions and subtractions as they occur, working from <u>left to right</u>

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## **Algebraic Expressions Terminology**

- Terms: Those parts of an algebraic expression separated by addition or subtraction.
- \* Example: in the expression 7x 9y 3
  - ◆ Coefficient: The numerical part of a term. 7, -9, -3
  - ◆ Constant: A term that consists of just a number, also called a constant term. -3
  - Like terms: Terms that have the exact same variable factors and exponents. 7x and 3x
  - Factors: Parts of each term that are multiplied 7x,  $-2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$ ,  $4 \cdot a \cdot c$
  - ◆ Collecting like terms utilizes distributive property  $7x + 3 + 2x - 9y + 5 + 3y \rightarrow 9x - 6y + 8$

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## 2.2: Simplifying Algebraic Expressions

| Use the Real Number I      | Properties to simplify expressions              |   |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| Commutative Property of    | Addition  |   |
| a + b = b + a              | $13x^2 + 7x = 7x + 13x^2$                       |   |
| Commutative Property of    | Multiplication                                  |   |
| ab = ba                    | $x \cdot 6 = 6 \cdot x$                         |   |
| Associative Property of Ac | ddition   |   |
| (a+b)+c = a+(b+c)          | 3 + (8 + x) = (3 + 8) + x = 11 + x              |   |
| Associative Property of M  | ultiplication                                   |   |
| (ab)c = a(bc)              | $-2(3x) = (-2 \cdot 3)x = -6x$                  |   |
| Distributive Property      |   |   |
| a(b + c) = ab + ac         | $5(3x + 7) = 5 \cdot 3x + 5 \cdot 7 = 15x + 35$ |   |
| a(b-c) = ab - ac           | $4(2x-5) = 4 \cdot 2x - 4 \cdot 5 = 8x - 20$    |   |
|                            |   |   |
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| Simplifying Algebraic Expressions                                  |          |  |
|--|----------|--|
| Simplify: 5(3x – 7) – 6x<br>Solution:                              |          |  |
| 5(3x - 7) - 6x<br>= $5 \cdot 3x - 5 \cdot 7 - 6x$ distributive p   | property |  |
| = $15x - 35 - 6x$ multiply<br>= $(15x - 6x) - 35$ group like terms | rms      |  |
| = 9X -35 Combine like terms  | 5        |  |
|  |          |  |

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| Simplifying Algebraic Expressions  |                              |  |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| $12x^2y - 3xy^2 - 15x^2y + 10xy^2$ | Prob 2.2.29                  |  |
| 15x - 12 - (4x + 9) - 8            | Prob 2.2.39                  |  |
| $(5x^2 - 3x - 9) - (x^2 - 5x - 9)$ | Prob 2.2.47                  |  |
| $4 - 5[2(5x - 4^2) - (12x - 3^2)]$ | Prob 2.2.55                  |  |
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## **Solving Using Properties of Equality**

#### The Addition Property of Equality

The same real number or algebraic expression may be added to both sides of an equation without changing the equation's solution set.

a = b and a + c = b + c are equivalent

a = b and a - c = b - c are equivalent

### The Multiplication Property of Equality

The same nonzero real number may multiply both sides of equation without changing the equation's solution set. a = b and  $a \cdot c = b \cdot c$  are equivalent

a = b and  $\frac{a}{c} = \frac{b}{c}$  are equivalent



### **Using Properties of Equality to Solve Equations**

| Equation          | How to Isolate x   | Solving the Equation  | The Equation's<br>Solution Set |
|-------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|
| x - 3 = 8         | Add 3 to both sides.   | x - 3 + 3 = 8 + 3<br>x = 11                                   | {11}                           |
| x + 7 = -15       | Subtract 7 from both sides.  | $\begin{array}{r} x + 7 - 7 = -15 - 7 \\ x = -22 \end{array}$ | {-22}                          |
| 6x = 30           | Divide both sides by 6 (or multiply both sides by $\frac{1}{6}$ ). | $\frac{\frac{6x}{6}}{x=5} = \frac{30}{6}$                     | {5}                            |
| $\frac{x}{5} = 9$ | Multiply both sides by 5.  | $5 \cdot \frac{x}{5} = 5 \cdot 9$ $x = 45$                    | {45}                           |

## **Solving a Linear Equation**

- Simplify the algebraic expression on each side by removing grouping symbols (apply distributive property) and combining like terms.
- 2. Collect all the variable terms on one side and all the constants, or numerical terms, on the other side.
- 3. Isolate the variable and solve.
- 4. Check the proposed solution in the original equation.

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### **Example:** 2(x - 4) - 5x = -5



#### **Alternate Solution: Clear fractions first** We are interested in the intensity of a negative life event with an average level of depression of 3 1/2for the high humor group. $D = \frac{1}{9}x + \frac{26}{9}$ 63 = 2x + 5263 - 52 = 2x + 52 - 52**Clear Fractions by multiplying** 11 = 2xboths sides by LCD = 911 2x $9 \cdot D = 9\left(\frac{1}{9}x + \frac{26}{9}\right)$ $\frac{\frac{11}{2}}{\frac{11}{2}}$ 2 $9 \cdot D = x + 26$ = xSubstitute $\frac{7}{2}$ for D $x = \frac{11}{2}$ $\frac{1}{1} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = x + 26$ 63 = 2(x + 26)**Clear Fractions by multiplying both** sides by of above by LCD = 2Copyright © 2016 R.M. Laurie 16

### Linear Equations with No Solution

\*Solve: 2x + 6 = 2(x + 4)\*Solution: 2x + 6 = 2(x + 4) 2x + 6 = 2x + 8 2x + 6 - 2x = 2x + 8 - 2x 6 = 8\*The original equation 2x + 6 = 2(x + 4) is equivalent to 6 = 8, which is false for every value of x. The equation has no solution. The solution set is Ø, the empty set.

| Solving Linear Equations       |                              |  |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| 4x - 3 = 13                    | Prob 2.3.19                  |  |
| 7 - 2x = 3                     | Prob 2.3.23                  |  |
| -3(x-5) = 6 - 4(2x-1)          | Prob 2.3.31                  |  |
| 27 - 3(x + 4) = 4x - (2x - 20) | Prob 2.3.35                  |  |
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### **Linear Equations with Infinitely Many Solutions**



## **2.4: Formulas = Literal Equations \*** Formula is an equation that uses letters to express a relationship between two or more quantities represented by variables **\*** Mathematical modeling is the process of finding formulas to describe real-world phenomena $C = \pi \cdot d = \pi \cdot (2 \cdot r) = 2 \cdot \pi \cdot r$ **\*** Let's determine value of Pi experimentally. $\pi = \frac{C}{d}$







