

MGSE8.EE.a, b & c

The student will be able to:

solve systems of equations using elimination with addition and subtraction.

Solving Systems of Equations

- So far, we have solved systems using graphing and substitution. These notes show how to solve the system algebraically using **ELIMINATION** with addition and subtraction.
- Elimination is easiest when the equations are in standard form.

Solving a system of equations by elimination using addition and subtraction.

Step 1: Put the equations in Standard Form.

Standard Form: $Ax + By = C$

Step 2: Determine which variable to eliminate.

Look for variables that have the Opposite coefficients.

Step 3: Add or subtract the equations.

Combine the parts that are left & Solve for the variable.

Step 4: Plug back in to find the other variable.

Substitute the value of the variable into the equation.

Step 5: Check your solution.

Substitute your ordered pair into BOTH equations.

1) Solve the system using elimination.

$$x + y = 5$$

$$3x - y = 7$$

Step 1: Put the equations in Standard Form.

They already are!

Step 2: Determine which variable to eliminate.

The y's have the Opposite coefficients.

Step 3: Add or subtract the equations.

Combine the equations.

$$\begin{array}{r} x + y = 5 \\ (+) 3x - y = 7 \\ \hline 4x = 12 \\ x = 3 \end{array}$$

1) Solve the system using elimination.

$$\begin{aligned}x + y &= 5 \\3x - y &= 7\end{aligned}$$

Step 4: Plug back in to find the other variable.

$$\begin{aligned}x + y &= 5 \\(3) + y &= 5 \\y &= 2\end{aligned}$$

Step 5: Check your solution.

$$\begin{aligned}(3, 2) \\(3) + (2) &= 5 \quad \checkmark \\3(3) - (2) &= 7 \quad \checkmark\end{aligned}$$

The solution is (3, 2). What do you think the answer would be if you solved using substitution?

2) Solve the system using elimination.

$$4x + y = 7$$

$$4x - 2y = -2$$

Step 1: Put the equations in Standard Form.

They already are!

Step 2: Determine which variable to eliminate.

The x's have the same Coefficient – take a negative through.

Step 3: Add or subtract the equations.

Combine the Equations.

$$\begin{array}{r} 4x + y = 7 \\ (-) 4x - 2y = -2 \\ \hline 3y = 9 \\ y = 3 \end{array}$$

Remember to “keep-change-change”

2) Solve the system using elimination.

$$\begin{aligned}4x + y &= 7 \\4x - 2y &= -2\end{aligned}$$

Step 4: Plug back in to find the other variable.

$$\begin{aligned}4x + y &= 7 \\4x + (3) &= 7 \\4x &= 4 \\x &= 1\end{aligned}$$

Step 5: Check your solution.

$$\begin{aligned}(1, 3) \\4(1) + (3) &= 7 \quad \checkmark \\4(1) - 2(3) &= -2 \quad \checkmark\end{aligned}$$

Which step would eliminate a variable?

$$3x + y = 4$$

$$3x + 4y = 6$$

1. Isolate y in the first equation
2. Add the equations
- ✓ 3. Subtract the equations
4. Multiply the first equation by -4

Solve using elimination.

$$2x - 3y = -2$$

$$x + 3y = 17$$

1. $(2, 2)$

2. $(9, 3)$

3. $(4, 5)$

✓ 4. $(5, 4)$

3) Solve the system using elimination.

$$y = 7 - 2x$$

$$4x + y = 5$$

Step 1: Put the equations in Standard Form.

$$\begin{aligned} 2x + y &= 7 \\ 4x + y &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

Step 2: Determine which variable to eliminate.

The y's have the same Coefficient – take a negative through.

Step 3: Add or subtract the equations.

Combine the Equations.

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x + y = 7 \\ (-) 4x + y = 5 \\ \hline -2x = 2 \\ x = -1 \end{array}$$

2) Solve the system using elimination.

$$y = 7 - 2x$$
$$4x + y = 5$$

Step 4: Plug back in to find the other variable.

$$y = 7 - 2x$$
$$y = 7 - 2(-1)$$
$$y = 9$$

Step 5: Check your solution.

$$(-1, 9)$$
$$(9) = 7 - 2(-1) \quad \checkmark$$
$$4(-1) + (9) = 5 \quad \checkmark$$

What is the first step when solving with elimination?

1. Add or subtract the equations.
2. Plug numbers into the equation.
3. Solve for a variable.
4. Check your answer.
5. Determine which variable to eliminate.
6. Put the equations in standard form.



Find two numbers whose sum is 18
and whose difference 22.

1. 14 and 4
2. 20 and -2
3. 24 and -6
4. 30 and 8