

L4-1 The Distributive Property

- equivalent expressions - expressions that have the same value
- simplify - put the mathematical expression or equation in its most basic form
- solve - find an answer or a value for the variable

equation \Rightarrow has equal sign

expression \Rightarrow part of an equation
 \Rightarrow DOES NOT include
an equal sign

Evaluate Numerical Expressions



Key Concept

Distributive Property

Words To multiply a sum or difference by a number, multiply each term inside the parentheses by the number outside the parentheses.

Symbols $a(b + c) = ab + ac$

$a(b - c) = ab - ac$

Example $5(6 + 7) = 5 \cdot 6 + 5 \cdot 7$

$(9 - 3)8 = 9 \cdot 8 - 3 \cdot 8$

Use the Distributive Property to write $4(5 + 8)$ as an equivalent expression. Then evaluate the expression.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &4(5+8) = \\
 &(4 \cdot 5) + (4 \cdot 8) = \\
 &20 + 32 = 52
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &4(5+8) = \\
 &4(13) = 52
 \end{aligned}$$

Use the Distributive Property to write $(6 - 9)^2$ as an equivalent expression. Then evaluate the expression.

$$\begin{aligned}(6-9)^2 &= \\ (2 \cdot 6) - (2 \cdot 9) &= \\ 12 - 18 &= -6\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(6-9)^2 &= \\ (-3)^2 &= -6\end{aligned}$$

Simplify Algebraic Expressions

Use the Distributive Property to write $2(x + 4)$ as an equivalent algebraic expression.

$$\begin{aligned} & \overbrace{2(x+4)} = \\ & (2 \cdot x) + (2 \cdot 4) = \\ & \underline{2x + 8} \end{aligned}$$

equivalent
expressions

Use the Distributive Property to write $4(x - 2)$ as an equivalent algebraic expression.

$$\begin{array}{l} 4(x - 2) \\ \hline (4 \cdot x) - (4 \cdot 2) \\ 4x - 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Use the Distributive Property to write $-2(n - 3)$ as an equivalent algebraic expression.

$$\begin{aligned} & -2(n-3) = \\ & (-2 \cdot n) - (-2 \cdot 3) = \\ & -2n + (14) = -2n + 6 \end{aligned}$$

MOVIES The cost of a movie ticket is \$7 and the cost of a box of popcorn is \$2. Write two equivalent expressions to find the total cost for a family of five to go to the movies if each member of the family gets a box of popcorn. Then find the total cost.

Step #1
important
info

Step 2
Logical
Equation

Step 3
work

Step 4
Answer w/
label

popcorn = \$2/(per) family member
ticket = \$7/(per) family member

5 family

$$5(7+2)$$

$$5(9) = \$45$$

for the family

$$(5 \cdot 7) + (5 \cdot 2)$$

$$35 + 10 = \$45$$

RECREATION A community center offers a canoeing day trip. The canoeing fee is \$80 per person. The cost of food is an additional \$39 per person. Find the total cost for a family of four.

$$\text{canoe} = \$80/\text{person}$$

$$\text{food} = \$39/\text{person}$$

4 family members

$$4(80 + 39) = 4(80 + 39) = 4 \cdot 119$$

$$(4 \cdot 80) + (4 \cdot 39) =$$

$$320 + 156 =$$

$$= \$476$$

for family

$$= \$476$$

for family

MENTAL MATH Find each product mentally. Justify your answer.

31. $8 \cdot 22$

$$8(20 + 2)$$
$$160 + 16 = 176$$

32. $13 \cdot 39$

$$13(40 - 1)$$
$$520 - 13 =$$
$$507$$

33. $19 \cdot 41$

$$19(40 + 1)$$
$$760 + 19 =$$
$$779$$