

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**Module 16** Solving Rational Equations  
**Lesson 1** Solving Rational Equations

**independent practice**

Solve the following rational equations.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. $\frac{m}{12} = \frac{1}{3}$ _____                 | 2. $\frac{p}{9} = \frac{4}{3}$ _____                  |
| 3. $\frac{4}{x} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{x}$ _____    | 4. $\frac{3}{a} = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{2}{a}$ _____    |
| 5. $\frac{r}{5} = \frac{3}{5} + \frac{r}{2}$ _____    | 6. $\frac{y}{7} + \frac{3}{4} = \frac{y}{4}$ _____    |
| 7. $\frac{2}{5s} = \frac{1}{5}$ _____                 | 8. $\frac{4}{m} = \frac{-2}{7}$ _____                 |
| 9. $\frac{2x}{3} - \frac{5}{4} = \frac{x}{2}$ _____   | 10. $\frac{3}{a} = \frac{1}{6a} - 2$ _____            |
| 11. $\frac{2m}{7} + \frac{3}{5} = \frac{m}{5}$ _____  | 12. $\frac{2}{3} - \frac{3b}{4} = \frac{2b}{6}$ _____ |
| 13. $\frac{3}{2r} - \frac{5}{4} = \frac{6}{3r}$ _____ | 14. $\frac{7}{2t} + \frac{3}{t} = 4$ _____            |
| 15. $\frac{4d}{d-2} - \frac{3}{d-2} = 5$ _____        | 16. $\frac{3g}{g+1} + \frac{2g-1}{g+1} = 3$ _____     |
| 17. $\frac{3}{x-4} + \frac{2x+1}{x-4} = 6$ _____      | 18. $\frac{2x}{x+3} - \frac{4x-2}{x+3} = 4$ _____     |
| 19. $\frac{4b}{b-6} - \frac{2b+1}{b-6} = 3$ _____     | 20. $\frac{m-6}{2m+1} + \frac{3}{2m+1} = 7$ _____     |

**Journal**

- Michael says that the equation  $\frac{1}{x} + \frac{3}{5} = \frac{1}{4}$  is solved by first subtracting  $\frac{3}{5}$  from both sides of the equation. Describe another way to solve this equation.
- Explain why the equation  $\frac{2}{4x} + \frac{1}{3x} = \frac{8}{x}$  has no solution.
- Sandeep claims that the only way to solve the equation  $6x + \frac{3}{4} = \frac{1}{6}$  is to first multiply both sides of the equation by the LCD, 12. He is incorrect. Give two alternative methods to solve this equation.
- Explain how to solve the equation  $\frac{2}{x-6} + \frac{4x+1}{x-6} = 3$ .

## Cumulative Review

Perform the indicated operations. Assume that the domains of the rational expressions contain no value for which any denominator is zero.

1.  $\frac{3y}{y-4} - \frac{7}{y-4}$  \_\_\_\_\_
2.  $\frac{3m}{m+4} \cdot \frac{4m+16}{6}$  \_\_\_\_\_
3.  $\frac{2n-1}{n+3} \div \frac{n-1}{6n+18}$  \_\_\_\_\_
4.  $\frac{3b+2}{b+1} + \frac{12}{b-1}$  \_\_\_\_\_
5.  $\frac{y^2+5y+6}{y^2-7y+12} \div \frac{2y^2+7y+3}{y^2-7y+12}$  \_\_\_\_\_
6.  $\frac{2}{t^2} \cdot \left(\frac{t^3}{4t}\right)^2$  \_\_\_\_\_

## Challenge

**Example: Solve.**

$$\frac{3}{x-1} + \frac{4x}{3} = \frac{4}{x-1}$$

Given

$$3(x-1)\left(\frac{3}{x-1} + \frac{4x}{3}\right) = 3(x-1)\left(\frac{4}{x-1}\right)$$

Multiply by the LCD

$$9 + 4x(x-1) = 12$$

Distributive Property

$$9 + 4x^2 - 4x = 12$$

Distributive Property

$$4x^2 - 4x - 3 = 0$$

Subtraction

$$(2x+1)(2x-3) = 0$$

Factor

$$2x+1 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad 2x-3 = 0$$

Solve each factor for 0

$$2x = -1 \quad \text{or} \quad 2x = 3$$

$$x = -\frac{1}{2} \quad \text{or} \quad x = \frac{3}{2}$$

Checking the answer of  $-\frac{1}{2}$  gives

$$\frac{3}{x-1} + \frac{4x}{3} = \frac{4}{x-1}$$

$$\frac{3}{\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)-1} + \frac{4 \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)}{3} \stackrel{?}{=} \frac{4}{\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)-1}$$

$$3\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) + \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) \stackrel{?}{=} 4\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)$$

$$-\frac{8}{3} = -\frac{8}{3}$$

The solution set to this equation is  $x = -\frac{1}{2}$  and  $x = \frac{3}{2}$ .

Checking the answer of  $\frac{3}{2}$  gives

$$\frac{3}{x-1} + \frac{4x}{3} = \frac{4}{x-1}$$

$$\frac{3}{\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)-1} + \frac{4 \cdot \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)}{3} \stackrel{?}{=} \frac{4}{\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)-1}$$

$$3(2) + \frac{6}{3} \stackrel{?}{=} 4(2)$$

$$8 = 8$$

**Solve.**

1.  $\frac{3}{x} = \frac{x}{12}$  \_\_\_\_\_
2.  $\frac{3}{x} - 4 = \frac{4x}{3-x}$  \_\_\_\_\_
3.  $\frac{3}{4m} + \frac{2m}{m-2} = 2$  \_\_\_\_\_
4.  $\frac{1}{6y} + \frac{3y}{2y+4} = \frac{4}{2y+4}$  \_\_\_\_\_
5.  $\frac{s-3}{s} + \frac{s-4}{s-6} = \frac{1}{s}$  \_\_\_\_\_