

10-6 Absolute Values of Products in Open Sentences

Objective: To extend your skill in solving open sentences that involve absolute value.

Property

The absolute value of a product of numbers equals the product of their absolute values.

$$|ab| = |a| \cdot |b|$$

Examples: $|-3 \cdot 5| = |-15| = 15 = 3 \cdot 5 = |-3| \cdot |5|$
 $|-6 \cdot (-2)| = |12| = 12 = 6 \cdot 2 = |-6| \cdot |-2|$

Example 1 Solve $|2x + 1| = 5$.

Solution 1 $|2x + 1| = 5$ is equivalent to the disjunction:

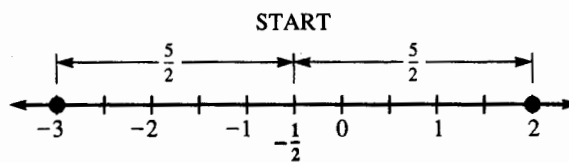
$$\begin{array}{lcl} 2x + 1 = -5 & \text{or} & 2x + 1 = 5 \\ 2x + 1 - 1 = -5 - 1 & & 2x + 1 - 1 = 5 - 1 \\ 2x = -6 & & 2x = 4 \\ x = -3 & \text{or} & x = 2 \end{array}$$

The solution set is $\{-3, 2\}$.

Solution 2

$$\begin{aligned} |2x + 1| &= 5 \\ \left| 2\left(x + \frac{1}{2}\right) \right| &= 5 \\ |2| \cdot \left| x + \frac{1}{2} \right| &= 5 \\ 2 \left| x + \frac{1}{2} \right| &= 5 \\ \left| x + \frac{1}{2} \right| &= \frac{5}{2} \\ \left| x - \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \right| &= \frac{5}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Thus the distance between x and $-\frac{1}{2}$ is $\frac{5}{2}$.



Starting at $-\frac{1}{2}$ the numbers -3 and 2 are exactly $\frac{5}{2}$ units away in either direction.

The solution set is $\{-3, 2\}$.

Solve each open sentence and graph its solution set.

1. $|2y| = 6$

2. $|6y| = 24$

3. $|5x| = 10$

4. $\left|\frac{x}{3}\right| = 2$

5. $\left|\frac{x}{2}\right| = 4$

6. $|2a - 1| = 5$

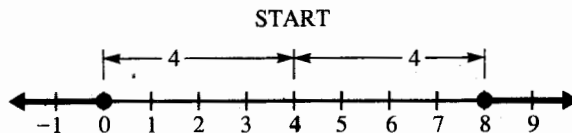
7. $|2x + 1| = 7$

8. $|3x - 1| = 5$

9. $\left|\frac{x}{2} - 1\right| = 3$

10-6 Absolute Values of Products in Open Sentences (continued)**Example 2** Solve $|8 - 2k| \geq 8$ and graph its solution set.**Solution 1**

$$\begin{aligned}
 |8 - 2k| &\geq 8 \\
 |-2k + 8| &\geq 8 \\
 |(-2)(k - 4)| &\geq 8 && \text{Factor.} \\
 |-2| \cdot |k - 4| &\geq 8 && \text{Use the property about the absolute value of a product.} \\
 |k - 4| &\geq 4
 \end{aligned}$$



The distance between k and 4 must be 4 or more, as shown above.

Thus the given inequality is equivalent to the disjunction

$$k \leq 0 \quad \text{or} \quad k \geq 8$$

The solution set is $\{0, 8, \text{ and the real numbers less than } 0 \text{ or greater than } 8\}$.

The graph is shown above.

Solution 2 $|8 - 2k| \geq 8$ is equivalent to the disjunction

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 8 - 2k \leq -8 & \text{or} & 8 - 2k \geq 8 \\
 -2k \leq -16 & | & -2k \geq 0 \\
 k \geq 8 & \text{or} & k \leq 0
 \end{array}$$

The solution set and graph are as given in Solution 1.

Solve each open sentence and graph its solution set.

10. $|2y - 1| \leq 5$

11. $|2x + 1| \geq 1$

12. $|2x - 3| < 7$

13. $|2n - 1| \geq 3$

14. $|4x - 13| > 7$

15. $|6 - 3k| \geq 9$

16. $|4 - 2k| \leq 4$

17. $\left|\frac{x}{2} - 1\right| \geq 3$

18. $\left|\frac{x}{3} - 2\right| \leq 2$

Mixed Review Exercises

Give the slope and y-intercept of each line.

1. $y = 3x + 1$

2. $3y = 12x - 6$

3. $3y - 2x + 6 = 0$

4. $y = 6$

5. $2x - y = 5$

6. $x = -2y + 4$

Graph each equation.

7. $y = -x + 2$

8. $y = 2x - 3$

9. $x = -2$

10. $y = 3$

11. $y = \frac{2}{3}x + 1$

12. $y = -\frac{1}{2}x - 2$