

Instructions. (points) Show all your work in the space provided. Each problem requires an algebraic solution.

- (5pts) 1. Find all real solutions, if any, of the equation

$$2x^{2/5} - 3x^{1/5} - 2 = 0$$

Solution: Let $u = x^{1/5}$. Then $u^2 = (x^{1/5})^2 = x^{2/5}$. Substitute these in

$$2x^{2/5} - 3x^{1/5} - 2 = 0$$

to obtain

$$2u^2 - 3u - 2 = 0.$$

Factor.

$$(2u + 1)(u - 2) = 0$$

Thus,

$$u = -\frac{1}{2} \quad \text{or} \quad u = 2.$$

Substitute back $u = x^{1/5}$.

$$x^{1/5} = -\frac{1}{2} \quad \text{or} \quad x^{1/5} = 2$$

Raise each equation to the fifth power.

$$(x^{1/5})^5 = \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^5 \quad \text{or} \quad (x^{1/5})^5 = 2^5$$

Thus,

$$x = -\frac{1}{32} \quad \text{or} \quad x = 32.$$

Both answers check.

- (5pts) 2. Solve the inequality

$$\frac{x - 4}{7} - \frac{3 - x}{5} \geq 1$$

Sketch your answer on a number line. Use interval and set-builder notation to describe your solution.

Solution: Start with the inequality

$$\frac{x - 4}{7} - \frac{3 - x}{5} \geq 1$$

and multiply both sides by the common denominator 35.

$$35 \left(\frac{x-4}{7} - \frac{3-x}{5} \right) \geq [1]35$$

$$5(x-4) - 7(3-x) \geq 35$$

Distribute.

$$5x - 20 - 21 + 7x \geq 35$$

Simplify.

$$12x - 41 \geq 35$$

Therefore,

$$12x \geq 76,$$

and

$$x \geq \frac{19}{3}.$$

In interval notation, the solution is $[19/3, \infty)$.

- (5pts) 3. Find all real solutions, if any, of the equation

$$|x^2 + 8x - 37| = 28$$

Solution: Start with

$$|x^2 + 8x - 37| = 28$$

then set

$$x^2 + 8x - 37 = -28 \quad \text{or} \quad x^2 + 8x - 37 = 28.$$

Make each side of each equation equal to zero.

$$x^2 + 8x - 9 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad x^2 + 8x - 65 = 0.$$

Factor.

$$(x+9)(x-1) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad (x+13)(x-5) = 0.$$

Hence, the solutions are $-9, 1, -13,$ and $5.$

- (5pts) 4. Solve the inequality: $|-6x+8| \leq 4$. Sketch your solution on a number line. Use interval and set-builder notation to describe your solution.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} &|-6x+8| \leq 4 \\ \implies &-6x+8 \leq 4 \quad \text{and} \quad -6x+8 \geq -4 \\ \implies &x \geq \frac{2}{3} \quad \text{and} \quad x \leq 2 \\ \implies &\frac{2}{3} \leq x \leq 2 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the solution interval is $[\frac{2}{3}, 2]$.

