

# Substitution (Pages 560–565)

To solve a system of equations without graphing, you can use the **substitution method** shown in the example below. In general, if you solve a system of equations and the result is a *true* statement, such as  $-5 = -5$ , the system has *infinitely many* solutions; if the result is a *false* statement, such as  $-5 = 7$ , the system has *no solution*.

## EXAMPLE

Use substitution to solve the system of equations  $x + y = 1$  and  $2x + y = -1$ .

**Step 1:** Solve one of the equations for  $x$  or  $y$ .

$$x + y = 1 \quad \text{Solve the first equation for } x \text{ since the} \\ x = 1 - y \quad \text{coefficient of } x \text{ is } 1.$$

**Step 2:** Substitute this value into the other equation.

$$2x + y = -1 \quad \text{Use the second equation.} \\ 2(1 - y) + y = -1 \quad \text{Substitute } 1 - y \text{ for } x. \\ 2 - 2y + y = -1 \quad \text{Distributive Property}$$

**Step 3:** Solve this equation.

$$2 - 2y + y = -1 \\ -y = -3 \text{ or } y = 3$$

**Step 4:** Find the value of the other variable using substitution into either equation.

$$x + y = 1 \quad \text{Use the first equation.} \\ x + 3 = 1 \quad \text{Substitute } 3 \text{ for } y. \\ x = -2 \quad \text{Solve for } x.$$

The solution to the system is  $(-2, 3)$ .

**Check:** Substitute  $-2$  for  $x$  and  $3$  for  $y$  in each of the original equations and check for true statements.

## Try These Together

Use substitution to solve each system of equations.

- |                  |                 |                 |                  |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. $3x + y = 19$ | 2. $2x - y = 7$ | 3. $y = 2x - 4$ | 4. $y = -5x + 3$ |
| $x - 2y = -10$   | $8x + y = 3$    | $y = 2x + 2$    | $y = 3x - 3$     |

HINT: If possible, choose to first solve an equation for a variable that has a coefficient of 1.

## PRACTICE

Use substitution to solve each system of equations.

- |                  |                    |                   |                   |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 5. $5x + 4 = y$  | 6. $3y + x = -1$   | 7. $6x - y = 0$   | 8. $3y - 4x = 2$  |
| $y - 3x = 7$     | $2x + 6 = -3y$     | $3x + 4y = 18$    | $8x = 6y - 4$     |
| 9. $2x - y = -4$ | 10. $5x - 2y = -6$ | 11. $3x + y = 28$ | 12. $5x - y = 98$ |
| $-x + y = -9$    | $2x + 3y = 9$      | $x + 3y = -12$    | $-2x + 3y = 5$    |



13. **Standardized Test Practice** All CDs in the budget bin are priced the same. Packs of AA batteries are on sale. Keisha's total bill (before tax) for 3 CDs and 1 pack of AA batteries was \$39. Eduardo's total for 2 CDs and 3 packs of batteries was \$33. What was the price of a single CD?

A \$3

B \$10

C \$12

D \$13

Answers: 1. (4, 7) 2. (1, -5) 3. no solution 4.  $(\frac{4}{3}, -\frac{4}{3})$  5.  $(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3})$  6.  $(-5, \frac{3}{4})$  7.  $(\frac{3}{2}, 4)$  8. infinitely many 9. (-13, -22) 10. (0, 3) 11. (12, -8) 12. (23, 17) 13. C