

## SIMPLIFYING EXPRESSIONS WITH ABSOLUTE VALUES

1. Write down the definition of  $|x|$ .  
Hence      a)    if  $x > 0$ , simplify  $|x| + 3$ ;  
              b)    if  $x < 0$ , simplify  $|x| + 3$ ;  
              c)    if  $x > 5$ , simplify  $|x| + 3$ .
  
2. Write down the definition of  $|x + 2|$ .  
Hence      a)    if  $x > 3$ , simplify  $|x + 2| + 1$ ;  
              b)    if  $x < -2$ , simplify  $|x + 2| + 1$ ;  
              c)    if  $0 < x < 2$ , simplify  $|x + 2| + 1$ .
  
3. Write down the definition of  $|x - 5|$ .  
Hence      a)    if  $x > 10$ , simplify  $|x - 5| + x$ ;  
              b)    if  $x < 3$ , simplify  $|x - 5| + x$ .
  
4.      a)    If  $x \geq 5$ , simplify  $|x + 2| + |x - 5|$ .  
          b)    If  $x < -2$ , simplify  $|x + 2| + |x - 5|$ .  
          c)    If  $-2 < x < 5$ , simplify  $|x + 2| + |x - 5|$ .
  
5.    If  $x > 0$ , simplify  $|x| + |x + 1|$ .
  
6.    If  $x < 0$ , simplify  $|x| + |x - 1|$ .
  
7.    If  $x > 6$ , simplify  $|x| + |x - 2|$ .
  
8.    If  $x < 0$ , simplify  $|x| + |x - 2|$ .
  
9.    If  $0 < x < 1$ , simplify  $|x| + |x - 2|$ .
  
10.   If  $x < 3$ , simplify  $|x - 3| + 2x$ .
  
11.   If  $x > 3$ , simplify  $|x - 2| - x$ .
  
12.   If  $-2 \leq x < 0$ , simplify  $|2x - 1| + |x + 3|$ .

### Answers:

- |    |             |    |              |     |          |
|----|-------------|----|--------------|-----|----------|
| 1. | a) $x + 3$  | 3. | a) $2x - 5$  | 6.  | $1 - 2x$ |
|    | b) $3 - x$  |    | b) $5$       | 7.  | $2x - 2$ |
|    | c) $x + 3$  | 4. | a) $2x - 3$  | 8.  | $2 - 2x$ |
| 2. | a) $x + 3$  |    | b) $-2x + 3$ | 9.  | $2$      |
|    | b) $-1 - x$ |    | c) $7$       | 10. | $x + 3$  |
|    | c) $x + 3$  | 5. | $2x + 1$     | 11. | $-2$     |
|    |             |    |              | 12. | $4 - x$  |

## EXERCISE 4.4

Solve these equations:

1.  $|x| = 6$

2.  $|4x| = 20$

3.  $|x - 5| = 8$

4.  $|2x - 3| = 17$

5.  $|5x + 2| = 12$

6.  $|2x + 6| = |x + 10|$

7.  $|3x - 12| = 0$

8.  $|2x - 5| = |x + 2|$

9.  $|7x - 4| = |3x + 16|$

10.  $|9x + 2| = |3x - 4|$

11.  $|2x + 1| = |x - 2|$

12.  $2|x + 8| = 3|x + 5|$

13.  $5|x - 7| = |9x + 1|$

14.  $6|x + 3| - 2|x + 1| = 0$

15.  $|7x - 3| = 4|x + 6|$

Solve the following equations and check the validity of each solution.

16.  $|3x + 1| = 2x + 4$

18.  $|2x| = 9 - x$

20.  $|6x - 5| = 5x + 27$

17.  $|4x - 1| = 2x + 7$

19.  $|2x + 5| = 3x + 9$

21.  $|4 - 2x| = x - 2$

1.  $x = \pm 6$   
 3.  $x = 13$  or  $-3$   
 5.  $x = 2$  or  $-2\frac{2}{3}$   
 7.  $x = 4$   
 9.  $x = 5$  or  $-1\frac{1}{3}$   
 11.  $x = \frac{3}{2}$  or  $-3$   
 13.  $x = -9$  or  $2\frac{1}{2}$   
 15.  $x = 9$  or  $-1\frac{1}{10}$   
 17.  $x = -1$  or  $4$   
 19.  $x = -2\frac{2}{3}$   
 21.  $x = 2$
2.  $x = \pm 5$   
 4.  $x = 10$  or  $-7$   
 6.  $x = 4$  or  $-5\frac{1}{3}$   
 8.  $x = 7$  or  $1$   
 10.  $x = -1$  or  $\frac{1}{2}$   
 12.  $x = 1$  or  $-6\frac{2}{3}$   
 14.  $x = -4$  or  $-2\frac{2}{3}$   
 16.  $x = -1$  or  $3$   
 18.  $x = 3$  or  $-9$   
 20.  $x = 32$  or  $-2$