

**1.4 Solving Absolute Value Equations**

**Objective:** Evaluate expressions involving absolute values.  
Solve absolute value equations.

What is absolute value? *Always (+)*  $| -5 | = 5$   
*distance from 0*  $| 5 | = 5$

**I. Evaluate.**

\* Ex 1)  $2.7 + |6 - 2x|$  if  $x = 4$

$$2.7 + |6 - 2 \cdot 4|$$

$$2.7 + |6 - 8|$$

$$2.7 + |-2|$$

$$2.7 + 2 = 4.7$$

**II. Solve.**

Ex 2)  $|x - 18| = 5$

$$x - 18 = 5 \text{ or } x - 18 = -5$$

$$\begin{array}{r} +18 +18 \\ \hline x = 23 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} +18 +18 \\ \hline x = 13 \end{array}$$

Check your Answers!

Ex 3)  $|y + 3| = 8$

$$y + 3 = 8 \quad y + 3 = -8$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -3 -3 \\ \hline y = 5 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} -3 -3 \\ \hline y = -11 \end{array}$$

Ex 4)  $|6 - 4t| + 5 = 0$

$$|6 - 4t| = -5$$

$$6 - 4t = -5 \quad 6 - 4t = 5$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -6 -6 \\ \hline -4t = -11 \\ t = 2.75 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} -6 -6 \\ \hline -4t = -1 \\ t = 0.25 \end{array}$$

~~Check~~ *does not check*

Ex 5)  $|w - 2| = 25$

*\* Cannot distribute through absolute value*

$$|w - 2| = 5$$

$$w - 2 = 5 \text{ or } w - 2 = -5$$

$$\begin{array}{r} +2 +2 \\ \hline w = 7 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} +2 +2 \\ \hline w = -3 \end{array}$$

Ex 6)  $|x + 6| = 3x - 2$

$$x + 6 = 3x - 2 \text{ or } x + 6 = -(3x - 2)$$

$$\begin{array}{r} +2 +2 \\ \hline x + 8 = 3x \\ -x -x \\ \hline 8 = 2x \\ x = 4 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} +2 +2 \\ \hline x + 6 = -3x + 2 \\ +3x +3x \\ \hline 4x + 6 = 2 \\ -6 -6 \\ \hline 4x = -4 \\ x = -1 \end{array}$$

Ex 7)  $|8 + y| = 2y - 3$

$$8 + y = 2y - 3 \quad 8 + y = -(2y - 3)$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -y -y \\ \hline 8 = y - 3 \\ +3 +3 \\ \hline 11 = y \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} +2y +2y \\ \hline 8 + 4y = -3 + 3 \\ +2y +2y \\ \hline 8 + 3y = 0 \\ -8 -8 \\ \hline 3y = -8 \\ y = -2.67 \end{array}$$

Ex 8) Now let us look at page 30...numbers 14 -16...

$|x - \text{desired amount}| = \text{the error}$

14.  $|x - 160| = 2$

15.  $x - 160 = 2 \text{ or } x - 160 = -2$   
 $x = 162^\circ\text{F} \quad x = 158^\circ\text{F}$