Math 9 Review – Part 2 Distributive Law and Like Terms



Like Terms

Like terms are terms that have the same variable(s) with the same exponent(s) of the variable(s). The only thing different are the coefficients.

Example 1:

Combining Like Terms

When we combine like terms we are simplifying an algebraic expression.

- Identify like terms
- Group like terms together (be sure to include the correct sign in front of each term)
- Add/subtract the coefficients of each like term together
- Write your final answer

Example 2: Simplify the following expressions:

a)
$$2a+3c-6a+4b-5c+3b$$

b) $-4x+5x^2+3x-2x+6x^2$

Distributive Law

The distributive law is an algebra property which is used to multiply a single term and two or more terms inside a set of parentheses.

We often use the expression "**expand**" when we need to use the distributive law.

Example 3: Simplify the following expressions:

a)
$$4(a+6)$$
 b) $5+3(2b-1)$

c)
$$-6(5+x)-(7x-11)$$
 b) $8(c+5)-6c+2(9c-3)$

1. Simplify each expression.

a)
$$8n-n$$
 b) $-v-v$

c)
$$1+3k-8+k$$
 d) $-5x-4+x+7$

e)
$$^{-4(1-8n)}$$
 f) $^{6(6+5m)}$

g)
$$-7(8v-5)+6v$$
 h) $-3+6(x+4)$

i)
$$-3a + 7(a+8)$$
 j) $4 + 8(x-7)$

k)
$$5(r-2)+7(-4r+1)$$

 I) $-4(1+5x)-6(2x+1)$

m)
$$^{1+2(x+6)-(8x-1)}$$
 n) $^{8a(a-7)-4(4a+3)}$