

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Math	Algebra	Systems of two linear equations in two variables	■ ■ □

ID: cb8f449f

$$\frac{1}{2}y = 4$$

$$x - \frac{1}{2}y = 2$$

The system of equations above has solution (x, y) . What is the value of x ?

A. 3

B. $\frac{7}{2}$

C. 4

D. 6

ID: cb8f449f Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

Choice D is correct. Adding the corresponding sides of the two equations eliminates y and yields $x = 6$, as shown.

$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{1}{2}y = 4 \\ x - \frac{1}{2}y = 2 \\ \hline x + 0 = 6 \end{array}$$

If (x, y) is a solution to the system, then (x, y) satisfies both equations in the system and any equation derived from them. Therefore, $x = 6$.

Choices A, B, and C are incorrect and may be the result of errors when solving the system.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Math	Algebra	Systems of two linear equations in two variables	

ID: 71189542

A group of 202 people went on an overnight camping trip, taking 60 tents with them. Some of the tents held 2 people each, and the rest held 4 people each. Assuming all the tents were filled to capacity and every person got to sleep in a tent, exactly how many of the tents were 2-person tents?

- A. 30
- B. 20
- C. 19
- D. 18

ID: 71189542 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is correct. Let x represent the number of 2-person tents and let y represent the number of 4-person tents. It is given that the total number of tents was 60 and the total number of people in the group was 202. This situation can be expressed as a system of two equations, $x + y = 60$ and $2x + 4y = 202$. The first equation can be rewritten as $y = -x + 60$. Substituting $-x + 60$ for y in the equation $2x + 4y = 202$ yields $2x + 4(-x + 60) = 202$. Distributing and combining like terms gives $-2x + 240 = 202$. Subtracting 240 from both sides of $-2x + 240 = 202$ and then dividing both sides by -2 gives $x = 19$. Therefore, the number of 2-person tents is 19.

Alternate approach: If each of the 60 tents held 4 people, the total number of people that could be accommodated in tents would be 240. However, the actual number of people who slept in tents was 202. The difference of 38 accounts for the 2-person tents. Since each of these tents holds 2 people fewer than a 4-person tent, $\frac{38}{2} = 19$ gives the number of 2-person tents.

Choice A is incorrect. This choice may result from assuming exactly half of the tents hold 2 people. If that were true, then the total number of people who slept in tents would be $2(30) + 4(30) = 180$; however, the total number of people who slept in tents was 202, not 180. Choice B is incorrect. If 20 tents were 2-person tents, then the remaining 40 tents would be 4-person tents. Since all the tents were filled to capacity, the total number of people who slept in tents would be $2(20) + 4(40) = 40 + 160 = 200$; however, the total number of people who slept in tents was 202, not 200. Choice D is incorrect. If 18 tents were 2-person tents, then the

remaining 42 tents would be 4-person tents. Since all the tents were filled to capacity, the total number of people who slept in tents would be $2(18) + 4(42) = 36 + 168 = 204$; however, the total number of people who slept in tents was 202, not 204.

Question Difficulty: Medium

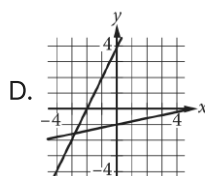
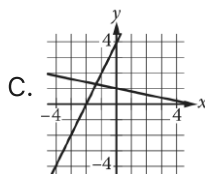
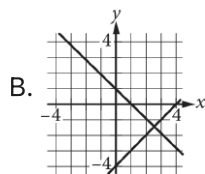
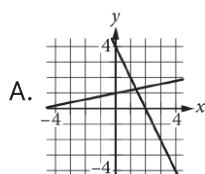
Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Math	Algebra	Systems of two linear equations in two variables	■ ■ □

ID: 6e6a3241

$$x + 5y = 5$$

$$2x - y = -4$$

Which of the following graphs in the xy -plane could be used to solve the system of equations above?



ID: 6e6a3241 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is correct. The graph of a system of equations is the graph that shows the lines represented by each of the equations in the system. The x -intercept of the graph of each given equation can be found by substituting 0 for y in each equation: $x + 5(0) = 5$, or $x = 5$, and $2x - 0 = -4$, or $x = -2$. The y -intercept of the graph of each equation can be found by substituting 0 for x in each equation: $0 + 5y = 5$, or $y = 1$, and $2(0) - y = -4$ or $y = 4$. Using these x - and y - intercept values, the line that has equation $x + 5y = 5$ passes through the points $(0, 1)$ and $(5, 0)$, and the line that has equation $2x - y = -4$ passes through the points $(0, 4)$

and $(-2,0)$. Only the lines in choice C pass through these points and can be used to solve the given system of equations.

Choices A, B, and D are incorrect. In choices A and B, neither line passes through $(0,1)$ and $(5,0)$ or $(0,4)$ and $(-2,0)$. In choice D, although one line passes through $(0,4)$ and $(-2,0)$ the other line doesn't pass through $(0,1)$ and $(5,0)$.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Math	Algebra	Systems of two linear equations in two variables	

ID: f5929f7a

$$y = -\frac{1}{9}x$$
$$y = \frac{1}{2}x$$

The solution to the given system of equations is (x, y) . What is the value of x ?

- A. -9
- B. -7
- C. 0
- D. 2

ID: f5929f7a Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is correct. It's given by the first equation in the system that $y = -\frac{1}{9}x$. Substituting $-\frac{1}{9}x$ for y in the second equation in the system yields $-\frac{1}{9}x = \frac{1}{2}x$. Multiplying the left-hand side of this equation by $\frac{2}{2}$ and the right-hand side by $\frac{9}{9}$ yields $-\frac{2}{18}x = \frac{9}{18}x$. Adding $\frac{2}{18}x$ to both sides of this equation yields $0 = \frac{11}{18}x$. Multiplying both sides of this equation by $\frac{18}{11}$ yields $x = 0$.

Choice A is incorrect and may result from conceptual or calculation errors.

Choice B is incorrect and may result from conceptual or calculation errors.

Choice D is incorrect and may result from conceptual or calculation errors.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Math	Algebra	Systems of two linear equations in two variables	

ID: ed92fb68

$4x + 5y = 100$

$5x + 4y = 62$

If the system of equations above has solution (x, y) ,
what is the value of $x + y$?

- A. 0
- B. 9
- C. 18
- D. 38

ID: ed92fb68 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is correct. Adding the given equations yields $9x + 9y = 162$. Dividing each side of the equation $9x + 9y = 162$ by 9 gives $x + y = 18$.

Choice A is incorrect and may result from incorrectly adding the equations. Choice B is incorrect and may result from conceptual or computational errors. Choice D is incorrect. This value is equivalent to $y - x$.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Math	Algebra	Systems of two linear equations in two variables	

ID: 19fdf387

In the xy -plane, the graph of $y = x + 3$ intersects the graph of $y = 2x - 6$ at the point (a,b) . What is the value of a ?

- A. 3
- B. 6
- C. 9
- D. 12

ID: 19fdf387 Answer

Correct Answer: C

Rationale

Choice C is correct. Since the graph of $y = x + 3$ intersects the graph of $y = 2x - 6$ at the point (a,b) , the ordered pair (a,b) is the solution to the system of linear equations consisting of $y = x + 3$ and $y = 2x - 6$, and the value of a is the value of x in the solution of this system. Since both $x + 3$ and $2x - 6$ are equal to y , it follows that $x + 3 = 2x - 6$. Subtracting x from and adding 6 to both sides of the equation yields $9 = x$. Therefore, the value of a is 9.

Choices A and B are incorrect and may result from a calculation or conceptual error in solving the system of equations consisting of $y = x + 3$ and $y = 2x - 6$. Choice D is incorrect. This is the value of b , not a .

Question Difficulty: Medium

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
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ID: c5082ce3

The score on a trivia game is obtained by subtracting the number of incorrect answers from twice the number of correct answers. If a player answered 40 questions and obtained a score of 50, how many questions did the player answer correctly?

ID: c5082ce3 Answer

Rationale

The correct answer is 30. Let x represent the number of correct answers from the player and y represent the number of incorrect answers from the player. Since the player answered 40 questions in total, the equation $x + y = 40$ represents this situation. Also, since the score is found by subtracting the number of incorrect answers from twice the number of correct answers and the player received a score of 50, the equation $2x - y = 50$ represents this situation. Adding the equations in the system of two equations together yields $(x + y) + (2x - y) = 40 + 50$. This can be rewritten as $3x = 90$. Finally, solving for x by dividing both sides of the equation by 3 yields $x = 30$.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Math	Algebra	Systems of two linear equations in two variables	

ID: 092ad67d

$$x + 2y = 6$$

$$x - 2y = 4$$

The solution to the given system of equations is (x, y) . What is the value of x ?

- A. 2.5
- B. 5
- C. 6
- D. 10

ID: 092ad67d Answer

Correct Answer: B

Rationale

Choice B is correct. Adding the first equation to the second equation in the given system yields $(x + 2y) + (x - 2y) = 6 + 4$, or $(x + x) + (2y - 2y) = 10$. Combining like terms in this equation yields $2x = 10$. Dividing both sides of this equation by 2 yields $x = 5$. Thus, the value of x is 5.

Choice A is incorrect and may result from conceptual or calculation errors.

Choice C is incorrect and may result from conceptual or calculation errors.

Choice D is incorrect. This is the value of $2x$, not x .

Question Difficulty: Medium

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Math	Algebra	Systems of two linear equations in two variables	

ID: e77a76ce

Which of the following systems of linear equations has no solution?

- A.

$y = 6x + 3$

$y = 6x + 9$
- B.

$y = 10$

$y = 10x + 10$
- C.

$y = 14x + 14$

$y = 10x + 14$
- D.

$x = 3$

$y = 10$

ID: e77a76ce Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is correct. A system of two linear equations in two variables, x and y , has no solution if the graphs of the lines represented by the equations in the xy -plane are distinct and parallel. The graphs of two lines in the xy -plane represented by equations in slope-intercept form, $y = mx + b$, where m and b are constants, are parallel if their slopes, m , are the same and are distinct if their y -coordinates of the y -intercepts, b , are different. In the equations $y = 6x + 3$ and $y = 6x + 9$, the values of m are each 6 , and the values of b are 3 and 9 , respectively. Since the slopes of these lines are the same and the y -coordinates of the y -intercepts are different, it follows that the system of linear equations in choice A has no solution.

Choice B is incorrect. The two lines represented by these equations are a horizontal line and a line with a slope of 10 that have the same y -coordinate of the y -intercept. Therefore, this system has a solution, $(0, 10)$, rather than no solution.

Choice C is incorrect. The two lines represented by these equations have different slopes and the same y -coordinate of the y -intercept. Therefore, this system has a solution, $(0, 14)$, rather than no solution.

Choice D is incorrect. The two lines represented by these equations are a vertical line and a horizontal line. Therefore, this system has a solution, $(3, 10)$, rather than no solution.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Math	Algebra	Systems of two linear equations in two variables	

ID: 5e422ff9

$$y = 2x - 3$$
$$3y = 5x$$

In the solution to the system of equations above, what is the value of y ?

- A. -15
- B. -9
- C. 9
- D. 15

ID: 5e422ff9 Answer

Correct Answer: D

Rationale

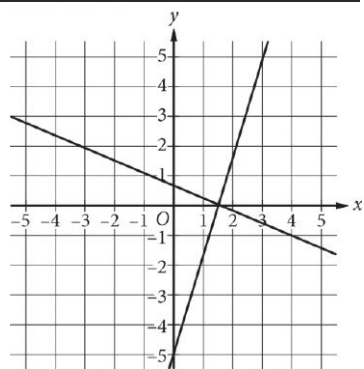
Choice D is correct. Multiplying both sides of $y = 2x - 3$ by 5 results in $5y = 10x - 15$. Multiplying both sides of $3y = 5x$ by 2 results in $6y = 10x$. Subtracting the resulting equations yields $5y - 6y = (10x - 15) - (10x)$, which simplifies to $-y = -15$. Dividing both sides of $-y = -15$ by -1 results in $y = 15$.

Choices A and B are incorrect and may result from incorrectly subtracting the transformed equation. Choice C is incorrect and may result from finding the value of x instead of the value of y .

Question Difficulty: Medium

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Math	Algebra	Systems of two linear equations in two variables	

ID: 2704399f



Which of the following systems of equations has the same solution as the system of equations graphed above?

- $y = 0$
- A. $x = \frac{3}{2}$
- $y = \frac{3}{2}$
- B. $x = 0$
- $y = 0$
- C. $x = 1$
- $y = 1$
- D. $x = 0$

ID: 2704399f Answer

Correct Answer: A

Rationale

Choice A is correct. The solution to a system of equations is the coordinates of the intersection point of the graphs of the equations in the xy -plane. Based on the graph, the solution to the given system of equations is

best approximated as $(\frac{3}{2}, 0)$. In the xy -plane, the graph of $y = 0$ is a horizontal line on which every y -

coordinate is 0, and the graph of $x = \frac{3}{2}$ is a vertical line on which every x -coordinate is $\frac{3}{2}$. These graphs

intersect at the point $(\frac{3}{2}, 0)$. Therefore, the system of equations in choice A has the same solution as the given system.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect. If graphed in the xy-plane, these choices would intersect at the points $(0, \frac{3}{2})$, $(1, 0)$, and $(0, 1)$, respectively, not $(\frac{3}{2}, 0)$.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Question ID b544a348

2.12

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Math	Algebra	Systems of two linear equations in two variables	

ID: b544a348

$$5x + 3y = 38$$

$$x + 3y = 10$$

In the solution (x, y) to the system of equations above, what is the value of x ?

ID: b544a348 Answer

Rationale

The correct answer is 7. Subtracting the second equation from the first equation eliminates the variable y .

$$\begin{array}{r}
 5x + 3y = 38 \\
 -(x + 3y = 10) \\
 \hline
 4x = 28
 \end{array}$$

Dividing both sides of the resulting equation by 4 yields $x = 7$.

Question Difficulty: Medium

Assessment	Test	Domain	Skill	Difficulty
SAT	Math	Algebra	Systems of two linear equations in two variables	

ID: e53688cb

$$x + 3y = 29$$

$$3y = 11$$

The solution to the given system of equations is (x, y) . What is the value of x ?

ID: e53688cb Answer

Correct Answer: 18

Rationale

The correct answer is **18**. It's given by the second equation in the system that $3y = 11$. Substituting **11** for $3y$ in the first equation in the system, $x + 3y = 29$, yields $x + 11 = 29$. Subtracting **11** from both sides of this equation yields $x = 18$.

Question Difficulty: Medium