

3.3 Linear Inequalities

Objectives

- 1) Solve linear inequalities
 - algebraically
 - graphically
- Still no interval notation in the Rockswold book, but you may use it instead (on quizzes and exams) so long as my instructions don't ask for a specific notation.

* Key detail: when isolating the variable, we do the operations as we would for solving a linear equation

EXCEPT

when we multiply both sides or divide both sides by a negative number, we must reverse the direction of the inequality

ex. ① $-2x < 3$

↓

$x > -\frac{3}{2}$

divide by -2

ex. ② $-\frac{1}{2}x \geq 3$

↓

$x \leq -6$

mult by -2

Solve the inequality and write the solution using set notation.

a) algebraically

b) graphically

③ $6 > x + 5$

a) isolate x by subtracting 5 from both sides

$$1 > x$$

"1 is greater than x -values"

reverse inequality when writing variable on the other side

$$x < 1$$

" x values are less than 1"

solution $\{x: x < 1\}$

b) $6 > x + 5$

y_1 y_2

y_1

y_2

In GC

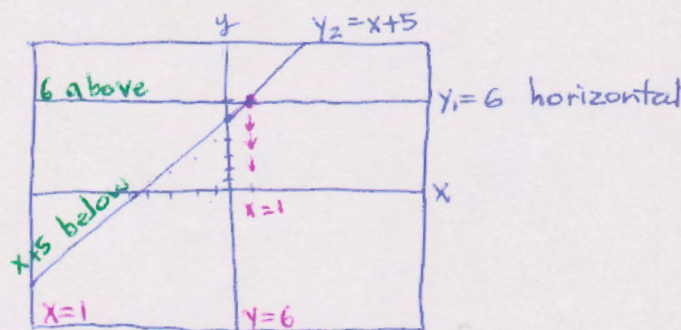
$Y=$

$$Y_1 = 6$$

$$Y_2 = x + 5$$

ZOOM

6. Standard window



Find intersection x -coordinate

2nd CALC

TRACE

5. Intersect

1st curve?

2nd curve?

Guess?

Identify the part of the graph where the "greater" equation is above the "lesser" equation.

Write x -values that correspond to the part of the graph that makes the inequality true.

$\{x: x < 1\}$

④ $\frac{x}{3} \geq 2 + \frac{x}{6}$

a) algebraic method

option 1: clear fractions by multiplying equation by LCD.

$$6 \cdot \frac{x}{3} \geq 6 \cdot 2 + 6 \cdot \frac{x}{6}$$

cancel

$$2x \geq 12 + x$$

collect x's

$$x \geq 12$$

$$\{x: x \geq 12\}$$

option 2: fraction lovers! Collect x by subtracting $\frac{x}{6}$ both sides

$$\frac{x}{3} - \frac{x}{6} \geq 2$$

$$\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{6} \quad \boxed{\text{MATH}} \rightarrow \text{frac}$$

$$\frac{x}{6} \geq 2$$

mult by 6 both sides to isolate x

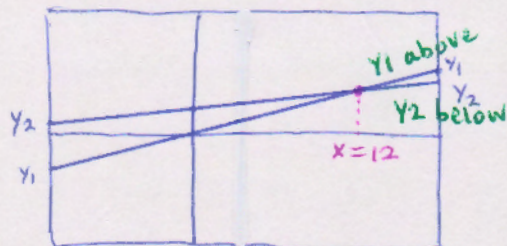
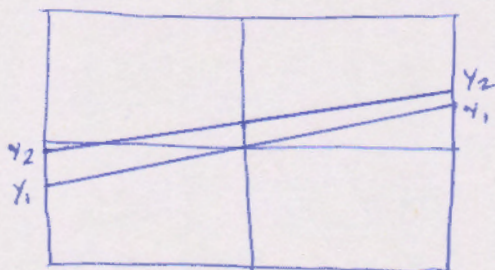
$$x \geq 12$$

isolate x

$$\{x: x \geq 12\}$$

b) graphical method

$$\underbrace{\frac{x}{3}}_{Y_1} \geq 2 + \underbrace{\frac{x}{6}}_{Y_2}$$



$$\{x: x \geq 12\}$$

WINDOW

XMAX 15

GRAPH

CALC

2nd TRACE

5. Intersect

ENTER
ENTER
ENTER

⑤ $-5B + 2(B-1) \leq 6 - 5B - 1$

a) algebraic method

simplify first (LHS dist & combine, RHS combine)

$$-5B + 2B - 2 \leq -5B + 5$$

$$-3B - 2 \leq -5B + 5$$

collect all x's on the same side (add 5B both sides)

$$2B - 2 \leq 5$$

isolate x

$$2B \leq 7$$

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

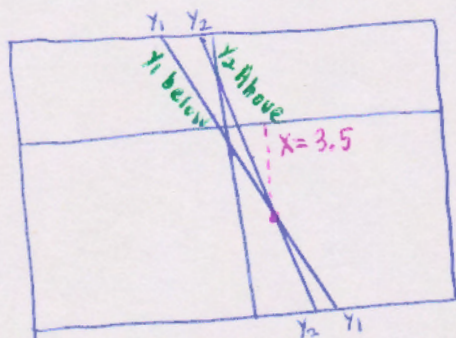
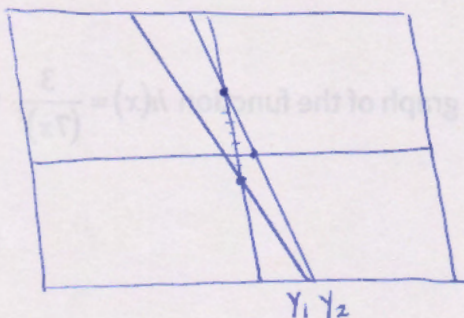
$$\{B: B \leq \frac{7}{2}\}$$

b) graphical method

$$-5B + 2(B-1) \leq 6 - 5B - 1$$

$$y_1 = -5x + 2(x-1)$$

$$y_2 = 6 - 5x - 1$$



WINDOW

XMIN -15

(less than -10)

GRAPH

2nd CALC TRACE

5. intersect

ENTER
ENTER
ENTER

$$\{x: x \leq 3.5\}$$

but the question called it B...

$$\{B: B \leq 3.5\}$$

⑥ $6-2x \geq 4-2x$

a) algebraic

collect x's same side by adding $2x$ both sides

$$6 \geq 4$$

no x's left — but 6 is greater than 4, a true statement

all real #s

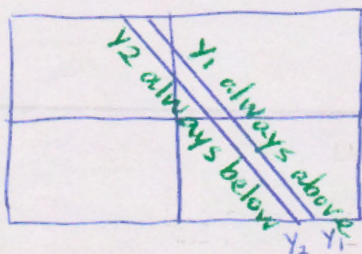
$$\{x : x \text{ is a real \#}\}$$

$$\text{or } \{x : x \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

$\in$ means "is an element of"
 $\mathbb{R}$ means "the set of real numbers"

b) graphical

$$\underbrace{6-2x}_{y_1} \geq \underbrace{4-2x}_{y_2}$$



Both lines have slope $m = -2$
 but different y-intercepts.
 Parallel lines do not intersect.

$$\{x : x \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

⑦ $6-x \leq 4-2x$

a) $6 \leq 4$ false statement

$$\text{no solution}$$

or $\emptyset$ the empty set

or $\{\}$ the empty set.

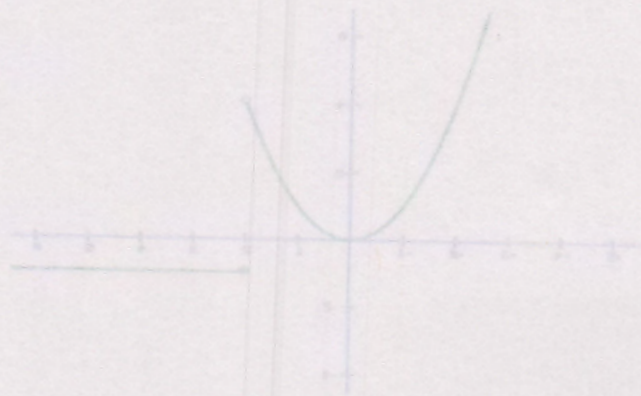
caution:

NOT $\{\emptyset\}$ which is
 "the set containing
 the empty set".

b) see graph above

y_1 is Never above y_2 .

$$\text{no solution}$$



$$(7) \quad -\frac{5}{8}x > \frac{25}{48}$$

a) algebraic:

option 1: clear fractions, mult by LCD = 48

$$48 \left(-\frac{5}{8}x \right) > 48 \left(\frac{25}{48} \right)$$

$$\text{cancel } \frac{48}{8} = 6$$

$$6(-5x) > 25$$

$$-30x > 25$$

isolate x by dividing both sides by -30.
and change direction of inequality

$$x < \frac{25}{-30}$$

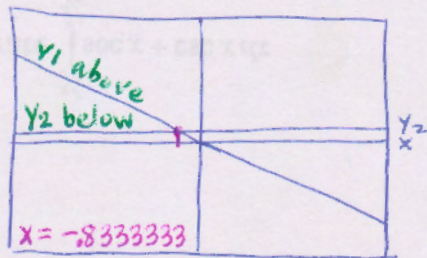
reduce

$$x < -\frac{5}{6}$$

$$\{x: x < -\frac{5}{6}\}$$

b) graphical:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} -\frac{5}{8}x & > & \frac{25}{48} \\ \underbrace{\phantom{-\frac{5}{8}x}}_{y_1} & & \underbrace{\phantom{\frac{25}{48}}}_{y_2} \end{array}$$



uh-oh! 😞

The GC has given a rounded decimal answer, and this result (because it's inside a graph) won't convert to fraction with MATH > frac.

check that the answer from the algebraic method matches:

$$-5/6 = -0.833333333333$$

Ah, it does. 😊

$$\{x: x < -\frac{5}{6}\}$$

* always give an exact answer