

Mth 096 – Beginning Algebra – Practice Exam 4 Solutions

1. $2 \cdot 3 - 2 = 4$ $3 + 3 \cdot 2 = 7$
 $6 - 2 = 4$ $3 + 6 = 7$

Clearly, the first is true, while the second is not, so this is NOT a solution to the system.

2. Solving for the intercepts, we see that the intercepts for the 1st line are $(0, -4)$ and $(1, 0)$.

The intercepts for the 2nd line are $(0, 2)$ and $(-2, 0)$.

From the graph, we can see that the two lines cross at $(2, 4)$. Checking this in the original equations shows that it is the solution.

3. Multiplying the first equation by 2 to cancel the x 's, we get:

$$\begin{aligned} 4x - 6y &= 6 \\ -4x + 6y &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

Adding the two equations gives:

$$0 = 8$$

Clearly this is not true, so the system is inconsistent. There are *no* solutions.

4. Solving the 2nd equation for b , we get:

$$b = 5 + a$$

Substituting into the 1st equation,

$$3a + 5(5 + a) = 1$$

Solving for a ,

$$3a + 25 + 5a = 1$$

$$8a + 25 = 1$$

$$8a = -24$$

$$a = -3$$

Substituting back into the equation for b ,

$$b = 5 + a = 5 + (-3) = 2$$

The solution is then: $a = -3, b = 2$. Be sure to check!

5. I chose elimination, with x as the variable to eliminate. First we multiply the 1st equation by -2 .

$$-2x + 6y = -2$$

$$2x + y = 9$$

Adding, we get: $7y = 7 \Rightarrow y = 1$

Substituting back, $2x + y = 9 \Rightarrow 2x + 1 = 9 \Rightarrow 2x = 8 \Rightarrow x = 4$

So the solution is: $x = 4, y = 1$.

6. I chose elimination again, with x as the variable to eliminate. First we multiply the 2nd equation by -2 .

$$2x + 2y = 6$$

$$-2x - 2y = -6$$

Adding, we get: $0 = 0$

This is just a true statement, so the system is dependent. There are infinitely many solutions.

7. If we let l = the number of laptops and d = the number of desktops, we can get two equations:

$$\begin{cases} l + d = 15 \\ 8l + 50d = 540 \end{cases}$$

I would chose elimination again. (Can you tell it's my favorite?)

Multiply the 1st equation by -8 to get:

$$-8l - 8d = -120$$

$$8l + 50d = 540$$

Adding, we get: $42d = 420 \Rightarrow d = 10$

Since there are 15 total, there must be 5 laptops and 10 desktops.

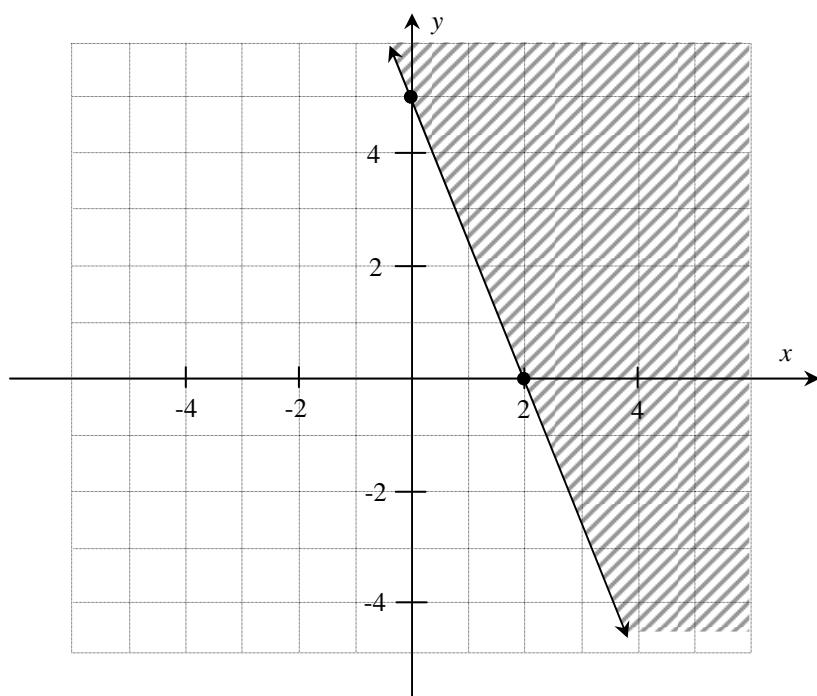
8. If we let n = the number of nickels and d = the number of dimes, the two equations are:

$$\begin{cases} n + d = 24 \\ 5n + 10d = 195 \end{cases}$$

Another acceptable version would be:

$$\begin{cases} n + d = 24 \\ 0.05n + 0.10d = 1.95 \end{cases}$$

9.



10.

