

**Algebraic Fractions (Solving Equations) www.m4ths.com Steve B! ©**

(1) (a) Show that the equation  $\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{x+1} = \frac{7}{12}$  can be written as  $\frac{2x+1}{x(x+1)} = \frac{7}{12}$

(b) Now show that the equation can be written as  $7x^2 - 17x - 12 = 0$

(c) Use the quadratic equation (or factorise) to find the **two** solutions to the equation  $\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{x+1} = \frac{7}{12}$

(2) (a) Show that the equation  $\frac{1}{x+1} + \frac{2}{x+3} = \frac{17}{35}$  can be written as:

$$17x^2 - 37x - 124 = 0$$

(b) Use the quadratic equation for  $17x^2 - 37x - 124 = 0$  to show that the two solutions of the equation  $\frac{1}{x+1} + \frac{2}{x+3} = \frac{17}{35}$  are  $x = 4$  and  $x = \frac{-31}{17}$

(3) Solve each equation below giving answers to 3SF where appropriate/possible.

(a)  $\frac{4}{x+6} - \frac{3}{x} = \frac{5}{2}$

(b)  $\frac{3}{x-1} + \frac{4}{x+2} = -\frac{39}{14}$

(c)  $\frac{x}{4} + \frac{2}{x+7} = 1\frac{5}{12}$

(d)  $\frac{5}{2x+1} = \frac{3}{x-3} - \frac{22}{9}$

(e)  $\frac{4}{3x-1} = \frac{7}{4x+1} + 1\frac{1}{3}$

(f)  $\frac{1}{x-1} - \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{x+1} = 0$

(4) Fred cycles for 20 miles with an average speed of  $s$  miles per hour. He then immediately cycles a further 30 miles. His average speed for the 30 miles was 5 miles per hour faster than his speed for the first 20 miles.

Given that Fred took 2 hours and 50 minutes for the 50 miles:

(a) Show that  $17s^2 - 215s - 600 = 0$

(b) Hence find Fred's average speed for each section of the ride.

(5) Karen has two different plastic blocks. One has a mass of 500g and the other 600g. The density of the 500g block is  $5g/cm^3$  less than the density of the 600g block. Given that the combined volume of the two blocks is  $49cm^3$ , find the density of each block.

(6) A number and twice its reciprocal sum to  $\frac{177}{56}$ . Find the number given that it's greater than two.

(7) Bob writes out the sequence  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{4} + \frac{5}{6} + \frac{7}{8} \dots$

Find the two consecutive terms in the sequence that sum to  $\frac{505}{264}$

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