Foundations of Algebra

Unit 4: Equations & Inequalities

Notes

Day 8 - Understanding Inequalities

Think About it: What numbers are bigger than -3? List them below.

An inequality is a statement that that compares two quantities that may or may not be equal. The quantities being compared use one of the following signs:











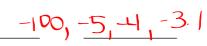




When reading an inequality, you always to want to read from the variable) Translate the following inequalities into words. Then name some possible solutions.

Possible Solutions

is greater than 2



c. y s y is less than or equal to 0

D. 25 z is greater than or equal to -2 3, -2, 15

E.x = 1 X is not equal to 1

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When graphing an inequality on a number line, you must pay attention to the sign of the inequality. We use open and closed circles to determine whether the value named in the inequality is part of the solution or not.

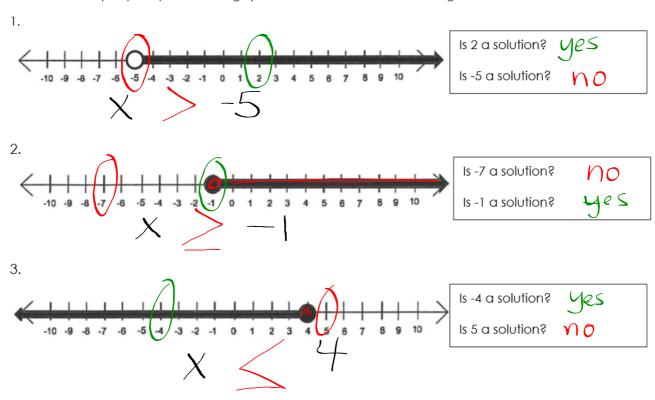
Open Circles: They communicate to us that a particular value is NOT included in the solution set.

Closed Circles: They communicate to us that a particular value IS included in the solution set.

Words	Example	Circle	Number Line
Greater Than	x > 2	Open	5 4 -3 -2 -1 0 1 2 3 4 5
Less Than	p < -3	Open	-5 4 -3 -2 -1 0 1 2 3 4 5
Greater Than or Equal To	z ≥ -2	Closed	-5 -4 -3 -2 -1 0 1 2 3 4 5
Less Than or Equal To	y ≤ 0	Closed	5 4 3 -2 -1 0 1 2 3 4 5
Not Equal To	x≠1	Open	5 4 3 -2 -1 0 2 3 4 5

Naming Inequalities from a Graph

Write an inequality to represent each graph and then determine if the following numbers are solutions:



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Day 9: Solving Inequalities

A solution to an inequality is any number that makes the inequality true.

	Value of x	x - 4 > -12	Is the inequality true?
. .	Substitu -2	x-43-12 -2-43-12 -6>-12 \land	Yes
	-8	-8-45-12 -12 × -12 X	no
	-10	-10 -42-12 -14 ×-12 X	n o

Practice: Solve each inequality and graph. Then name three solutions.

