**PROPERTIES OF REAL NUMBERS**

Let$ a$, $b$, and $c$ be any real numbers

1. **IDENTITY PROPERTIES**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Additive Identity** |  |
|  | The sum of any number and $0$ is equal to the number. Thus, $0$ is called the **additive** **identity**. |
|  | *For any number* $a$*, the sum of* $a$ *and* $0$ *is* $a$*.* |  |
|  | **Multiplicative Identity** |  |
|  | The product of any number and $1$ is equal to the number. Thus, $1$ is called the **multiplicative identity**. |
|  | *For any number* $a$*, the product of* $a$ *and* $1$ *is* $a$*.* |  |

1. **INVERSE PROPERTIES**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Additive Inverse** |  |
|  | The sum of any number and its opposite number (its negation) is equal to $0$. Thus, $0$ is called the **additive** **inverse**. |
|  | *For any number* $a$*, the sum of* $a$ *and* $-a$ *is* $0$*.* |  |
|  | **Multiplicative Property of Zero** |  |
|  | *For any number* $a$*, the product of* $a$ *and* $0$ *is* $0$*.* |  |
|  | **Multiplicative Inverse** |  |
|  | The product of any number and$ $its reciprocal is equal to $1$. Thus, the number’s reciprocal is called the **multiplicative inverse**. |  |
|  | *For any number* $a$*, the product of* $a$ *and its reciprocal* $\frac{1}{a}$ *is* $1$*.* |  |
|  | *For any numbers*$ \frac{a}{b}$*, where* $b\ne 0$*, the product of* $\frac{a}{b}$*and its reciprocal*$\frac{b}{a}$*is* $1$*.* |  |

**Sample Problem 1**: Name the property in each equation. Then find the value of $x$.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | $$24⋅x=24$$ |
|  | $$x+0=51$$ |
|  | $$x⋅6=1$$ |
|  | $$x+19=0$$ |
|  | $$x⋅7=0$$ |
|  | $$\frac{3}{5}⋅x=1$$ |

1. **EQUALITY PROPERTIES**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Reflexive**  |  |
|  | Any quantity is equal to itself. |
|  | *For any number* $a$*,* $a=a$*.* |  |
|  | **Symmetric** |  |
|  | If one quantity equals a second quantity, then the second quantity equals the first quantity. |
|  | *For any numbers* $a$ *and* $b$*, if* $a=b$ *then* $b=a$*.* |  |
|  | **Transitive** |  |
|  | If one quantity equals a second quantity and the second quantity equals a third quantity, then the first quantity equals the third quantity. |
|  | *For any numbers* $a$*,* $b$*, and* $c$*, if* $a=b$ *and* $b=c$*, then*$ a=c$*.* |  |
|  | **Substitution** |  |
|  | A quantity may be substituted for its equal in any expression.  |
|  | *If* $a=b$*, then* $a$ *may be replaced by* $b$ *in any expression.* |  |

**Sample Problem 2**: Evaluate$ x\left(xy-5\right)+y⋅\frac{1}{y}$, if $x=2$ and $y=3$. Name the property of equality used in each step.

1. **COMMUTATIVE PROPERTIES**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Addition**  |  |
|  | The order in which two numbers are added does not change their sum. |  |
|  | *For any numbers* $a$ *and* $b$*,* $a+b$ *is equal to* $b+a$*.* |  |
|  | **Multiplication** |  |
|  | The order in which two numbers are multiplied does not change their product. |  |
|  | *For any numbers* $a$ *and* $b$*,* $a⋅b$ *is equal to* $b⋅a$*.* |  |

1. **ASSOCIATIVE PROPERTIES**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Addition**  |  |
|  | The way three or more numbers are grouped when adding does not change their sum. |
|  | *For any numbers* $a$*,* $b$*, and* $c$*,* $\left(a+b\right)+c$ *is equal to* $a+(b+c)$*.* |  |
|  | **Multiplication** |  |
|  | The way three or more numbers are grouped when multiplying does not change their product. |
|  | *For any numbers* $a$*,* $b$*, and* $c$*,* $\left(a⋅b\right)⋅c$ *is equal to* $a⋅(b⋅c)$*.* |  |

**Sample Problem 3**: Simplify variable expressions. Show all possible answers.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | $$6+\left(x+3\right)$$ |
|  | $$\left(1+x\right)+2$$ |
|  | $$5⋅7x$$ |
|  | $$\left(x+4\right)+8$$ |
|  | $$\left(6\right)\left(3x\right)$$ |