# C - Expressions and Equations, Lesson 5, Transforming Formulas (r. 2018) <br> EXPRESSIONS AND EQUATIONS <br> Transforming Formulas 

## Common Core Standard

A-CED.A. 4 Rearrange formulas to highlight a quantity of interest, using the same reasoning as in solving equations. For example, rearrange Ohm's law $V=I R$ to highlight resistance $R$.

Next Generation Standard
AI-A.CED. 4 Rewrite formulas to highlight a quantity of interest, using the same reasoning as in solving equations. e.g., Rearrange Ohm's law $V=I R$ to highlight resistance $R$.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to:

1) rewrite (transform) formulas to isolate specific variables.

Overview of Lesson

| Teacher Centered Introduction <br> Overview of Lesson <br> - activate students' prior knowledge <br> - vocabulary <br> - learning objective(s) <br> - big ideas: direct instruction <br> - modeling | Student Centered Activities <br> guided practice $\leftarrow$ Teacher: anticipates, monitors, selects, sequences, and connects student work <br> - developing essential skills <br> - Regents exam questions <br> - formative assessment assignment (exit slip, explain the math, or journal entry) |
| :---: | :---: |

## VOCABULARY

formula
transform
transformation
isolate

## BIG IDEAS

Properties and operations can be used to transform formulas to isolate different variables in the same ways that equations are manipulated to isolate a variable.

Example: The formula $P=2 l+2 w$ can be used to find the perimeter of a rectangle. In English, $P=2 l+2 w$ translates as "The perimeter equals two times the length plus two times the width." In the formula $P=2 l+2 w$, the $P$ variable is already isolated. You can isolate the $l$ variable or the $w$ variables, as follows. (Note that the steps and operations are the same as with regular equations.)
To isolate the $l$ variable:
Start with the formula:

$$
P=2 l+2 w
$$

Move the term 2 w to the left expression.

$$
p-2 w=2 l
$$

Divide both sides of the equation by 2 .

To isolate the $w$ variable:
Start with the formula:

$$
P=2 l+2 w
$$

Move the term $2 l$ to the left expression.

$$
p-2 l=2 w
$$

Divide both sides of the equation by 2 .

$$
\frac{p-2 w}{2}=l
$$

You now have a formula for $l$ in terms of $P$ and $w$.

$$
\frac{P-2 l}{2}=w
$$

You now have a formula for $l$ in terms of $P$ and $w$.

## DEVELOPING ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Isolate each variable in the Volume formula for a rectangular prism $V=l w h$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
V & =l w h \\
\frac{V}{w h} & =l \\
\frac{V}{l h} & =w \\
\frac{V}{l w} & =h
\end{aligned}
$$

Isolate each variable in the slope intercept formula of a line $y=m x+b$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
y & =m x+b \\
\frac{y-b}{x} & =m \\
\frac{y-b}{m} & =x \\
y-m x & =b
\end{aligned}
$$

## REGENTS EXAM QUESTIONS

## A.CED.A.4: Transforming Formulas

69) The formula for the volume of a cone is $V=\frac{1}{3} \pi r^{2} h$. The radius, $r$, of the cone may be expressed as
70) $\sqrt{\frac{3 V}{\pi h}}$
71) $\sqrt{\frac{V}{3 \pi h}}$
72) $3 \sqrt{\frac{V}{\pi h}}$
73) $\frac{1}{3} \sqrt{\frac{V}{\pi h}}$
74) The formula for the area of a trapezoid is $A=\frac{1}{2} h\left(b_{1}+b_{2}\right)$. Express $b_{1}$ in terms of $A, h$, and $b_{2}$. The area of a trapezoid is 60 square feet, its height is 6 ft , and one base is 12 ft . Find the number of feet in the other base.
75) The equation for the volume of a cylinder is $V=\pi r^{2} h$. The positive value of $r$, in terms of $h$ and $V$, is
76) $r=\sqrt{\frac{V}{\pi h}}$
77) $r=2 V \pi h$
78) $r=\sqrt{V \pi h}$
79) $r=\frac{V}{2 \pi}$
80) The distance a free falling object has traveled can be modeled by the equation $d=\frac{1}{2} a t^{2}$, where $a$ is acceleration due to gravity and $t$ is the amount of time the object has fallen. What is $t$ in terms of $a$ and $d$ ?
81) $t=\sqrt{\frac{d a}{2}}$
82) $t=\sqrt{\frac{2 d}{a}}$
83) $t=\left(\frac{d a}{d}\right)^{2}$
84) $t=\left(\frac{2 d}{a}\right)^{2}$
85) The volume of a large can of tuna fish can be calculated using the formula $V=\pi r^{2} h$. Write an equation to find the radius, $r$, in terms of $V$ and $h$. Determine the diameter, to the nearest inch, of a large can of tuna fish that has a volume of 66 cubic inches and a height of 3.3 inches.
86) Michael borrows money from his uncle, who is charging him simple interest using the formula $I=\operatorname{Pr} t$. To figure out what the interest rate, $r$, is, Michael rearranges the formula to find $r$. His new formula is $r$ equals
87) $\frac{I-P}{t}$
88) $\frac{p-I}{t}$
89) $\frac{I}{P t}$
90) $\frac{P_{t}}{I}$
91) The formula for the sum of the degree measures of the interior angles of a polygon is $S=180(n-2)$. Solve for $n$, the number of sides of the polygon, in terms of $S$.
92) Solve the equation below for $x$ in terms of $a$.

$$
4(a x+3)-3 a x=25+3 a
$$

77) Boyle's Law involves the pressure and volume of gas in a container. It can be represented by the formula $P_{1} V_{1}=P_{2} V_{2}$. When the formula is solved for $P_{2}$, the result is
78) $P_{1} V_{1} V_{2}$
79) $\frac{V_{2}}{P_{1} V_{1}}$
80) $\frac{P_{1} V_{1}}{V_{2}}$
81) $\frac{P_{1} V_{2}}{V_{1}}$
82) The formula for blood flow rate is given by $F=\frac{p_{1}-p_{2}}{r}$, where $F$ is the flow rate, $p_{1}$ the initial pressure, $p_{2}$ the final pressure, and $r$ the resistance created by blood vessel size. Which formula can not be derived from the given formula?
83) $p_{1}=F r+p_{2}$
84) $p_{2}=p_{1}-F r$
85) $r=F\left(p_{2}-p_{1}\right)$
86) $r=\frac{p_{1}-p_{2}}{F}$
87) Using the formula for the volume of a cone, express $r$ in terms of $V, h$, and $\pi$.
88) The formula $F_{g}=\frac{G M M_{1} M_{2}}{r^{2}}$ calculates the gravitational force between two objects where $G$ is the gravitational constant, $M_{1}$ is the mass of one object, $M_{2}$ is the mass of the other object, and $r$ is the distance between them. Solve for the positive value of $r$ in terms of $F_{g}, G, M_{1}$, and $M_{2}$.
89) Students were asked to write a formula for the length of a rectangle by using the formula for its perimeter, $p=2 \ell+2 w$. Three of their responses are shown below.
I. $\ell=\frac{1}{2} p-w$
II. $\ell=\frac{1}{2}(p-2 w)$
III. $\ell=\frac{p-2 w}{2}$

Which responses are correct?

1) I and II, only
2) I and III, only
3) II and III, only
4) I, II, and III

## SOLUTIONS

69) ANS: 1

Strategy: Use the four column method.

| Notes | Left Expression | Sign | Right Expression |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Given | $V$ | $=$ | $\frac{1}{3} \pi r^{2} h$ |
| Multiply both <br> expressions by 3 | $3 V$ | $=$ | $\pi r^{2} h$ |
| Divide both <br> expressions by $\pi h$ | $\frac{3 V}{\pi h}$ | $=$ | $\frac{\pi r^{2} h}{\pi h}$ |
| Simplify | $\frac{3 V}{\pi h}$ | $=$ | $r^{2}$ |
| Take square root of <br> both sides. | $\sqrt{\frac{3 V}{\pi h}}$ | $=$ | $r$ |

PTS: 2 NAT: A.CED.A. 4 TOP: Transforming Formulas
70) ANS:
a) $b_{1}=\frac{2 A}{h}-b_{2}$
b) The other base is 8 feet.

Strategy: Use the four column method to isolate $b_{1}$ and create a new formula, then use it to find the length of the other base.

| Notes | Left Expression | Sign | Right Expression |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Given | $A$ | $=$ | $\frac{1}{2} h\left(b_{1}+b_{2}\right)$ |
| Multiply both <br> expressions by 2 | $2 A$ | $=$ | $h\left(b_{1}+b_{2}\right)$ |


| Divide both <br> expressions by $h$ | $\frac{2 A}{h}$ | $=$ | $\frac{h\left(b_{1}+b_{2}\right)}{h}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Simplify | $\frac{2 A}{h}$ | $=$ | $b_{1}+b_{2}$ |
| Subtract $b_{2}$ from <br> both expressions | $\frac{2 A}{h}-b_{2}$ | $=$ | $b_{1}$ |

Substitute the values stated in the problem in the formula.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& A=60, h=6, b_{2}=12 \\
& b_{1}=\frac{2 A}{h}-b_{2} \\
& b_{1}=\frac{2(60)}{6}-12 \\
& b_{1}=\frac{120}{6}-12 \\
& b_{1}=20-12 \\
& b_{1}=8 \text { feet }
\end{aligned}
$$

PTS: 4 NAT: A.CED.A. 4 TOP: Transforming Formulas
71) ANS: 1

Strategy: Use the four column method to isolate $r$.

| Notes | Left Expression | Sign | Right Expression |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Given | $V$ | $=$ | $\pi r^{2} h$ |
| Divide both <br> expressions by $\pi h$ | $\frac{V}{\pi h}$ | $=$ | $\frac{\pi r^{2} h}{\pi h}$ |
| Simplify | $\frac{V}{\pi h}$ | $=$ | $r^{2}$ |
| Take square root of <br> both expressions. | $\sqrt{\frac{V}{\pi h}}$ | $=$ | $r$ |

PTS: 2
NAT: A.CED.A. 4 TOP: Transforming Formulas
72) ANS: 2

Strategy: Use the four column method. Isolate $t$.

| Notes | Left Expression | Sign | Right Expression |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Given | $d$ | $=$ | $\frac{1}{2} a t^{2}$ |
| Multiply both <br> expressions by 2 | $2 d$ | $=$ | $a t^{2}$ |
| Divide both <br> expressions by $a$ | $\frac{2 d}{a}$ | $=$ | $\frac{a t^{2}}{a}$ |
| Simplify | $\frac{2 d}{a}$ | $=$ | $t^{2}$ |


| Take square root of <br> both expressions | $\sqrt{\frac{2 d}{a}}$ | $=$ | $t$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

PTS: 2
NAT: A.CED.A. 4 TOP: Transforming Formulas
73) ANS:
a) $\quad r=\sqrt{\frac{V}{\pi h}}$
b) 5 inches

Strategy: Use the four column method to isolate $r$ and create a new formula, then use the new formula to answer the problem.

| Notes | Left Expression | Sign | Right Expression |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Given | $V$ | $=$ | $\pi r^{2} h$ |
| Divide both <br> expressions by $\pi h$ | $\frac{V}{\pi h}$ | $=$ | $\frac{\pi r^{2} h}{\pi h}$ |
| Simplify | $\frac{V}{\pi h}$ | $=$ | $r^{2}$ |
| Take square root of <br> both expressions. | $\sqrt{\frac{V}{\pi h}}$ | $=$ | $r$ |

Substitute the values from the problem into the new equation.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& V=66, h=3.3 \\
& r=\sqrt{\frac{V}{\pi h}} \\
& r=\sqrt{\frac{66}{\pi(3.3)}} \\
& r=\sqrt{\frac{20}{\pi}} \\
& r \approx \sqrt{6.4} \\
& r \approx 2.52
\end{aligned}
$$

If the radius is approximately 2.5 inches, the diameter is approximately 5 inches.
PTS: 4
NAT: A.CED.A. 4 TOP: Transforming Formulas
74)

ANS: 3
Strategy: Isolate r, as follows:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& I=\operatorname{Pr} t \\
& I=P t(r) \\
& \frac{I}{P t}=r
\end{aligned}
$$

PTS: 2
75) ANS:

$$
\begin{aligned}
S & =180(n-2) \\
S & =180 n-360 \\
S+360 & =180 n \\
\frac{S+360}{180} & =n \\
& \text { or } \\
\frac{S}{180}+2 & =n
\end{aligned}
$$

PTS: 2
NAT: A.CED.A. 4 TOP: Transforming Formulas
76) ANS:
$x=\frac{13}{a}+3$

$$
\begin{aligned}
4(a x+3)-3 a x & =25+3 a \\
4 a x+12-3 a x & =25+3 a \\
a x+12 & =25+3 a \\
a x & =13+3 a \\
a x-3 a & =13 \\
a(x-3) & =13 \\
x-3 & =\frac{13}{a} \\
x & =\frac{13}{a}+3
\end{aligned}
$$

PTS: 2
NAT: A.CED.A. 4
77)

| Given | $P_{1} V_{1}$ | $=$ | $P_{2} V_{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Divide by $V_{2}$ | $\frac{P_{1} V_{1}}{V_{2}}$ | $=$ | $\frac{P_{1} F_{2}}{\nabla_{2}}$ |
| Simplify | $\frac{P_{1} V_{1}}{V_{2}}$ | $=$ | $P_{1}$ |

PTS: 2
NAT: A.CED.A. 4 TOP: Transforming Formulas
78) ANS: 3

$$
\begin{aligned}
& F=\frac{p_{1}-p_{2}}{r} \\
& r F=p_{1}-p_{2} \\
& r=\frac{p_{1}-p_{2}}{F}
\end{aligned}
$$

If $r=\frac{p_{1}-p_{2}}{F}$, then $r=F\left(p_{2}-p_{1}\right)$ cannot be true.

PTS: 2
79) ANS:

NAT: A.CED.A. 4 TOP: Transforming Formulas

$$
\begin{aligned}
V & =\frac{1}{3} \pi r^{2} h \\
3 V & =\pi r^{2} h \\
\frac{3 V}{\pi h} & =\frac{\pi r^{2} h}{\pi h} \\
\frac{3 V}{\pi h} & =r^{2} \\
\sqrt{\frac{3 V}{\pi h}} & =r
\end{aligned}
$$

PTS: 2
80) ANS:

$$
\begin{aligned}
F_{g} & =\frac{G M_{1} M_{2}}{r^{2}} \\
r^{2} F_{g} & =G M_{1} M_{2} \\
r^{2} & =\frac{G M_{1} M_{2}}{F_{g}} \\
r & =\sqrt{\frac{G M M_{1} M M_{2}}{F_{g}}}
\end{aligned}
$$

PTS: 2
NAT: A.CED.A. 4 TOP: Transforming Formulas
81) ANS: 4

Strategy: Transform the formula to isolate the $l$ variable.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& p=2 l+2 w \\
& p-2 w=2 l \\
& \frac{p-2 w}{2}=l
\end{aligned}
$$

This is solution III.
NOTE that solution III can also be expressed as:

$$
\frac{1}{2}(p-2 w)=l
$$

This is solution II.
NOTE also that the distributive property of multiplication can transform solution II into:

$$
\frac{1}{2} p-w=l
$$

This is solution I.
The correct answer choice is I, II, and III.
PTS: 2
NAT: A.CED.A. 4 TOP: Transforming Formulas

