

## Objectives

- Solve rational equations in one variable.
- Solve rational inequalities in one variable.

### Keywords

- rational equation.
- rational inequality.

## Solve rational equations

### Example 1 Solve a Rational Equation

Solve  $\frac{5}{6} - \frac{2}{4x+1} = \frac{x}{3}$

Step 1) decide what's the LCD that will make the denominators the same

Multiply by LCD: .....

$$\dots\dots\dots \frac{5}{6} - \dots\dots\dots \frac{2}{4x+1} = \dots\dots\dots \frac{x}{3}$$

Step 2) simplify

$$5(4x+1) - 6(2) = 2x(4x+1)$$

$$\dots\dots\dots x + \dots\dots\dots - \dots\dots\dots = \dots\dots\dots x^2 + 2x$$

$$20x - \dots\dots\dots = \dots\dots\dots x^2 + 2x$$

Step 3) solve for x (using quadratic formula)

Make it = 0  $0 = \dots\dots\dots x^2 - \dots\dots\dots x + \dots\dots\dots$

$$x = \frac{\dots\dots\dots \pm \sqrt{(\dots\dots\dots)^2 - 4(\dots\dots\dots)(\dots\dots\dots)}}{2(\dots\dots\dots)} = \dots\dots\dots \text{ or } \dots\dots\dots$$