PRACTICE



THE DISTRIBUTIVE LAW

Simplify each pair of expressions.

1. a.
$$4 + 2[s - 6s - 1)$$

b.
$$(4+2)[s-6(s-1)]$$

2. a.
$$4x - 2x[x - 6(x + 1)]$$

b.
$$4x - x[x - 6(x + 2)]$$

EQUATIONS

3. The solution to this equation is 6:

$$5x - 1 = 29$$
.

- a. Change one number in the equation so that the solution will be 5.
- b. Change the coefficient of *x* so that the solution to the equation will be 15.

PARENTHESES

4. Simplify. Compare your answers for (a) and (b).

a.
$$10 - 5 - 3 + 2$$

b.
$$10 - (5 - 3 + 2)$$

- 5. What is the smallest number you can get by inserting parentheses in the first expression? The largest number? Explain, showing your work.
- 6. a. Make up an expression containing three terms whose value depends upon where the parentheses are placed. Find all the possible values.
 - b. Make up an expression containing three terms whose value does not depend upon where the parentheses are placed.