

**Revision to Tyler Wallace's  
"Linear Equations in One Variable:  
Solving General Linear Equations in One Variable"**

**Problem:** Solve:  $4(2x - 5) + 3 = 5(4x - 1) - 10x$ .

1. Let's simplify the left side first. Distribute the 4 to get  
 $4(2x - 5) + 3 = 4(2x) - 4(5) + 3$ , which equals  $8x - 20 + 3$ .
  - a. Now we combine like terms, in this case,  $-20$  and  $3$  to get  
 $8x - 20 + 3 = 8x - 17$ . This is our expression on the left side.
  - b. So, we have  $8x - 17 = 5(4x - 1) - 10x$
2. Now, let's simplify the right side. Distribute 5 to get  $5(4x) - 5(1) - 10x$ , which equals  $20x - 5 - 10x$  (*Note: this is where the video has an error. The video has  $20x - 1 - 10x$ , this means they did not distribute 5 correctly*).
  - a. Now, again we combine like terms, in this case  $20x$  and  $-10x$ , to get  
 $20x - 5 - 10x = 10x - 5$ . This is our expression on the right side.
  - b. So, now we have  $8x - 17 = 10x - 5$
3. Let's simplify  $8x - 17 = 10x - 5$  by getting the variable on one side.
  - a. Let's subtract  $8x$  from both sides to get  $8x - 8x - 17 = 10x - 8x - 5$ ,  
which gives us  $-17 = 2x - 5$
4. Now, let's solve by adding 5 to both sides,  $-17 + 5 = 2x - 5 + 5$ , which gives us  
 $-12 = 2x$
5. We can now solve for  $x$  by dividing both sides by 2 to get  $-6 = x$



*Here is a summary of what we did:*

$$4(2x - 5) + 3 = 5(4x - 1) - 10x$$

$$4(2x) - 4(5) + 3 = 5(4x - 1) - 10x$$

$$8x - 20 + 3 = 5(4x - 1) - 10x$$

$$8x - 17 = 5(4x) - 5(1) - 10x$$

$$8x - 17 = 20x - 5 - 10x$$

$$8x - 17 = 10x - 5 \quad \text{Subtract } 8x \text{ from both sides}$$

$$-17 = 2x - 5 \quad \text{Now, add } 5 \text{ to both sides}$$

$$-12 = 2x \quad \text{Divide both sides by } 2$$

$$-6 = x$$

