

3.6 Solving Systems of Equations in 3 Variables

1 Solve for (x, y, z) : $(1, -2, 3)$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{1} & 2x + y + 3z = 9 \\ \textcircled{2} & x - 2y + z = 8 \\ \textcircled{3} & -4x + 3y + 2z = -4 \end{aligned} \quad \textcircled{2} \quad x + 4 + 3 = 8 \quad x = 1$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \textcircled{2} \textcircled{1} \quad 4x + 2y + 6z = 18 \\ \textcircled{2} \textcircled{2} \quad -4x + 3y + 2z = -4 \\ \hline 5y + 8z = 14 \\ -5y - z = 7 \\ \hline 7z = 21 \\ z = 3, \quad y = -2 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} \textcircled{1} \quad 2x + y + 3z = 9 \\ \textcircled{2} \quad -2x + 4y - 2z = -16 \\ \hline 5y + z = -7 \\ 5y + 3z = -7 \\ \hline 5y = -10 \\ y = -2 \end{array}$$

2 Over a 1-week period, 255 VHS Spirit Items were sold. The number of coffee mugs sold was 5 less than the number of T-shirts sold, and the number of paw print decals sold was 5 more than the number of t-shirts and mugs combined. How many of each item were sold?

Substitute

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{1} & M + T + D = 255 && \text{mugs} = 60 \\ \textcircled{2} & M + 5 = T && \text{T-shirts} = 65 \\ \textcircled{3} & D = T + M + 5 && \text{decals} = 130 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2M + 5 + D = 255 \\ \textcircled{1} \quad 2M + D = 250 \\ \textcircled{3} \quad D = 2M + 10 \\ \hline \textcircled{1} \quad 4M + 10 = 250 \\ M = 60 \end{array}$$

