A literal equation is an equation that contains multiple variables.

• The goal of a literal equation is to isolate a particular variable (not always x)!

1. Solve for a.

$$ax + b = c$$

2. Solve for w.

$$V = lwh$$

3. Solve for b.

$$A = \frac{y+b}{2}$$

4. Solve for x.

(combine like terms first)

$$3x + 5x - 7y = z$$

5. Solve for w.

$$CD = \frac{12s}{w}$$

6. Solve for t.

$$\frac{t}{5} - 4r = 25$$

- 7. The formula for a person's typing speed is $s = \frac{s}{m}$, where s is speed in words per minute, w is number of words typed, e is number of errors, and m is number of minutes typing.
- a. Solve for e.
- b. **Using your formula from part a**, find the number of errors when you type 500 words for 10 minutes at a speed of 40 words per minute.

- 8. The formula I = Prt can be used to determine the interest I that is earned on a principal amount of money P, when the money is invested at an annual percentage rate r for t years.
- a. Solve the formula I = Prt for t.
- b. If a couple invests \$5000 in an account that earns a 3% interest rate, how long will they need to invest it to earn \$1200 in interest? (Hint: Convert the interest rate to a decimal.)

9. $\frac{2}{5}(-10a + 5b) = d$ Solve for a