Solving Equations/Inequalities
Variables on Both Sides

① Define the variable, if necessary.

② Write the equation or inequality.

③ Use the distributive property to get rid of any parentheses.

④ Combine like terms separately on each side.

⑤ Eliminate the variable from one side using addition or subtraction.

⑥ Eliminate the constant term (number by itself) from the side with the variable using addition or subtraction.

⑦ Cancel the coefficient (number in front of or under the variable) using multiplication or division.

⑧ Check the solution by substitution.

⑨ Graph the solution on a number line.