

Excluded values are the values of the variable that result in a denominator equal to 0. The excluded values here are the solutions to the equations  $x^2 - 25 = 0$  and  $x + 5 = 0$ . The number 25 is not a solution to either of these equations. The number 5 is not a solution to the equation  $x + 5 = 0$ , but it is a solution to  $x^2 - 25 = 0$ .