

Answer 41

41. If $-3/(a - 3) = 3/(a + 2)$, then $a = ?$

$$\frac{-3}{(a - 3)} = \frac{3}{(a + 2)}$$

Cross multiply, but be sure to keep the parenthesis intact so the Distributive Property can be properly applied:

$$-3(a + 2) = 3(a - 3)$$

$$-3a - 6 = 3a - 9$$

Then simplify by adding both $3a$ and 9 to both sides

$$-6 + 9 = 3a + 3a$$

$$3 = 6a$$

Therefore $a = \frac{1}{2}$ so answer C.