

Algebra Basics Review

Name: SOLUTIONS

1) For each of the following, identify the major terms, and then identify the major factors in each of the major terms. (2 mark each)

a) $6 - 2\pi r + 7t$

Major Terms	Factors in Term
6	6
$-2\pi r$	$-2, \pi, r$
$7t$	$7, t$

b) $4(x - 3) + 5x^2$

Major Terms	Factors in Term
$4(x - 3)$	$4, x - 3$
$5x^2$	$5, x^2$

c) $3 - 2x + 7x^2 - x^4$

Major Terms	Factors in Term
3	3
$-2x$	$-2, x$
$7x^2$	$7, x^2$
$-x^4$	$-x^4$

d) $3x(x + 1) - 4x^2(x^2 - 1)$

Major Terms	Factors in Term
$3x(x + 1)$	$3, x, x + 1$
$-4x^2(x^2 - 1)$	$-4, x^2, x^2 - 1$

e) $7(3x - 5)^6$

Major Terms	Factors in Term
$7(3x - 5)^6$	$7, (3x - 5)^6$

f) $3x^2(4x - 3)^8 - 8x^3(4x - 3)^7$

Major Terms	Factors in Term
$3x^2(4x - 3)^8$	$3, x^2, (4x - 3)^8$
$-8x^3(4x - 3)^7$	$-8, x^3, (4x - 3)^7$

2) Use the distributive property to expand the following and then simplify by collecting like terms. (2 marks each)

a) $(4x + 2)(3x - 1)$
 $= 12x^2 + 6x - 4x - 2$
 $= 12x^2 + 2x - 2$

b) $(x^2 + 4x - 2)(2x - 3)$
 $= 2x^3 + 8x^2 - 4x - 3x^2 - 12x + 6$
 $= 2x^3 + 5x^2 - 16x + 6$

c) $3xy^2 + 6x^2y - x(y^2 - 4xy)$
 $= 3xy^2 + 6x^2y - xy^2 + 4x^2y$
 $= 2xy^2 + 10x^2y$

d) $4(x + 1)(2x - 1) - (-3x + 4)(x - 1)$
 $= 4(2x^2 + 2x - x - 1) - (-3x^2 + 4x + 3x - 4)$
 $= 8x^2 + 4x - 4 + 3x^2 - 7x + 4$
 $= 11x^2 - 3x$

3) Simplify the following (if possible):

(2 marks each)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } 3x^2 \times (-2x^4) \\ &= -6x^{2+4} \\ &= -6x^6 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b) } 9x^3 \div 3x^{-2} \\ &= 3x^{3-(-2)} \\ &= 3x^5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{c) } 3x^2 + (-2x^4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{d) } \frac{9x^7y^2}{2x^3y^7} \\ &= \frac{9x^{7-3}}{2y^{7-2}} \\ &= \frac{9x^4}{2y^5} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{e) } \left(\frac{6x^4}{15x^2}\right)^{-3} \\ &= \left(\frac{2x^2}{5}\right)^{-3} \\ &= \frac{5^3}{2^3x^6} \\ &= \frac{125}{8x^6} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{f) } \left(\frac{3x^{-2}}{18x^{-7}}\right)^2 \\ &= \left(\frac{1x^5}{6}\right)^2 \\ &= \frac{x^{10}}{6^2} \\ &= \frac{x^{10}}{36} \end{aligned}$$

4) Simplify the following fractions by combining exponentials and cancelling common factors. Break up the fractions if needed to cancel factors. (2 marks each)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } \frac{42x^3(x+3)}{-6x^2(x+3)(x-3)} \\ &= \frac{-7x^{3-2}}{(x-3)} \\ &= \frac{-7x}{(x-3)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b) } \frac{25}{(x+1)} \times \frac{14(2x-1)}{5(x-1)} \times \frac{2(x+1)}{35(2x-1)} \\ &= \frac{5}{1} \times \frac{2}{1(x-1)} \times \frac{2}{5} \\ &= \frac{1}{1} \times \frac{2}{1(x-1)} \times \frac{2}{1} \\ &= \frac{4}{x-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c) } \frac{25(3x-4)^3(x-4)}{15(x-4)^4} \\ &= \frac{5(3x-4)^3}{3(x-4)^{4-1}} \\ &= \frac{-5(3x-4)^3}{3(x-4)^3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{d) } \frac{\frac{(2x-3)}{16}}{\frac{7x(2x-3)^2}{7x(2x-3)^2}} \\ &= \frac{4}{(2x-3)} \times \frac{7x(2x-3)^2}{16} \\ &= \frac{1}{1} \times \frac{7x(2x-3)^{2-1}}{4} \\ &= \frac{7x(2x-3)}{4} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{e) } \frac{3(2x-5)^4 - 2(x+1)}{6(2x-5)^2} \\ &= \frac{3(2x-5)^4}{6(2x-5)^2} - \frac{2(x+1)}{6(2x-5)^2} \\ &= \frac{1(2x-5)^{4-2}}{2} - \frac{1(x+1)}{3(2x-5)^2} \\ &= \frac{(2x-5)^2}{2} - \frac{x+1}{3(2x-5)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{f) } \frac{8x(x+3)^2 - 7\sqrt{x}(x+3) + 5(x+3)^4}{(x+3)^4} \\ &= \frac{8x(x+3)^2}{(x+3)^4} - \frac{7\sqrt{x}(x+3)}{(x+3)^4} + \frac{5(x+3)^4}{(x+3)^4} \\ &= \frac{8x}{(x+3)^{4-2}} - \frac{7\sqrt{x}}{(x+3)^{4-1}} + 5 \\ &= \frac{8x}{(x+3)^2} - \frac{7\sqrt{x}}{(x+3)^3} + 5 \end{aligned}$$

5) Solve the following addition/subtraction problems using the Lowest Common Denominator and reduce to lowest terms. (3 marks each)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } \frac{5}{6} + \frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{LCD} &= 2 * 3 = 6 \\ &= \frac{5}{6} + \frac{2}{3} * \frac{2}{2} - \frac{1}{2} * \frac{3}{3} \\ &= \frac{5}{6} + \frac{4}{6} - \frac{3}{6} \\ &= \frac{6}{6} = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b) } \frac{13}{30} + \frac{5}{12} - \frac{7}{15} \quad \text{LCD} &= 3 * 2 * 2 * 5 = 60 \\ &= \frac{13}{30} * \frac{2}{2} + \frac{5}{12} * \frac{5}{5} - \frac{7}{15} * \frac{4}{4} \\ &= \frac{26}{60} + \frac{25}{60} - \frac{28}{60} \\ &= \frac{23}{60} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c) } \frac{5x}{6} + \frac{2}{5} \quad \text{LCD} &= 5 * 2 * 3 = 30 \\ &= \frac{5x}{6} * \frac{5}{5} + \frac{2}{5} * \frac{6}{6} \\ &= \frac{25x}{30} + \frac{12}{30} \\ &= \frac{25x+12}{30} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{d) } \frac{1}{3x} + \frac{2}{2x+1} \quad \text{LCD} &= 3x * (2x+1) \\ &= \frac{1}{3x} * \frac{2x+1}{2x+1} + \frac{2}{2x+1} * \frac{3x}{3x} \\ &= \frac{2x+1}{3x(2x+1)} + \frac{6x}{3x(2x+1)} \\ &= \frac{8x+1}{3x(2x+1)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{e) } \frac{5}{6(x+1)(x-3)} + \frac{1}{2(x-1)(x-3)} - \frac{2}{3(x+1)} \quad \text{LCD} &= 2 * 3 * (x+1) * (x-1) * (x-3) \\ &= 6(x+1)(x-1)(x-3) \\ &= \frac{5}{6(x+1)(x-3)} * \frac{x-1}{x-1} + \frac{1}{2(x-1)(x-3)} * \frac{3(x+1)}{3(x+1)} - \frac{2}{3(x+1)} * \frac{2(x-1)(x-3)}{2(x-1)(x-3)} \\ &= \frac{5(x-1)}{6(x+1)(x+1)(x-3)} + \frac{3(x+1)}{6(x-1)(x+1)(x-3)} - \frac{4(x-1)(x-3)}{6(x+1)(x-1)(x-3)} \\ &= \frac{5x-5+3x+3-4(x^2-4x+3)}{6(x-1)(x+1)(x-3)} \\ &= \frac{8x-2-4x^2+16x-12}{6(x-1)(x+1)(x-3)} \\ &= \frac{-4x^2+24x-14}{6(x-1)(x+1)(x-3)} \\ &= \frac{-2x^2+12x-7}{3(x-1)(x+1)(x-3)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{f) } \frac{2}{15x^4} - \frac{3}{5x^2(x-1)} \quad \text{LCD} &= 5 * 3 * x^4(x-1) \\ &= 15x^4(x-1) \\ &= \frac{2}{15x^4} * \frac{x-1}{x-1} - \frac{3}{5x^2(x-1)} * \frac{3x^2}{3x^2} \\ &= \frac{2x-2-9x^2}{15x^4(x-1)} \end{aligned}$$