

Diagnostic test

Name Key

1. Evaluate each expression without using a calculator

$$\text{a) } \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{-2} = \frac{3^2}{2^2} = \frac{9}{4} = \underline{2.25}$$

$$\text{b) } 16^{-3/4} = (2^4)^{-3/4} = 2^{-4 \cdot 3/4} = 2^{-3} = \boxed{\frac{1}{8}}$$

2. Simplify

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{2x^{3/2}y^3}{x^2y^{-1/2}}\right)^{-2} = \left(2x^{3/2-2}y^{3+1/2}\right)^{-2} \\ & = \left(2x^{-1/2}y^{7/2}\right)^{-2} = \frac{1}{2^2} \cdot x^{-1/2 \cdot (-2)} \cdot y^{7/2 \cdot (-2)} \\ & = \boxed{\frac{1}{4}x \cdot y^{-7}} = \frac{1 \cdot x}{4y^7} = \underline{\underline{\frac{x}{4y^7}}} \end{aligned}$$

3. Expand and simplify

a)

$$(x+3)(4x-5)$$
$$= 4x^2 + 12x - 5x - 15 = \underline{4x^2 + 7x - 15}$$

b)

$$\boxed{a-b}$$

$$(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b})(\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b})$$

4. Factor the expression

a)

$$2x^2 + 5x - 12$$

$$\underline{(2x-3)(x+4)}$$

b)

$$4x^2 - 25$$

$$\underline{(2x-5)(2x+5)}$$

5. Simplify

a)

$$\frac{\frac{y}{x} - \frac{x}{y}}{\frac{1}{y} - \frac{1}{x}} = \frac{\frac{y^2 - x^2}{xy}}{\frac{x - y}{xy}} = \frac{y^2 - x^2}{xy} \cdot \frac{xy}{x - y}$$
$$= \frac{-(x-y)(x+y)}{x-y} = \frac{xy}{\cancel{-x+y}} \cdot \frac{1}{-x-y}$$

b)

$$\frac{x^2}{x^2 - 4} - \frac{x+1}{x+2} = \frac{x^2}{(x-2)(x+2)} - \frac{x+1}{x+2}$$
$$= \frac{x^2 - (x+1)(x-2)}{(x-2)(x+2)} = \frac{x^2 - (x^2 - x - 2)}{(x-2)(x+2)}$$
$$= \frac{x+2}{(x-2)(x+2)} = \frac{1}{x-2}$$

6. Rationalize the expression and simplify

a)

$$\frac{\sqrt{10}}{\sqrt{5}-2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{5}+2}{\sqrt{5}+2} = \frac{\sqrt{10}(\sqrt{5}+2)}{5-4}$$
$$= \boxed{\sqrt{10}(\sqrt{5}+2)}$$

b)

$$\frac{\sqrt{4+h}-2}{h} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{4+h}+2}{\sqrt{4+h}+2}$$
$$= \frac{\cancel{4+h}-4}{h(\sqrt{4+h}+2)} = \frac{h}{h(\sqrt{4+h}+2)} = \boxed{\frac{1}{\sqrt{4+h}+2}}$$

7. Find an equation of the line that contains the points (-3,2) and (1,1).

$$\text{slope: } \frac{1-2}{1-(-3)} = \frac{-1}{4}$$

$$y = \frac{-1}{4}x + b$$

plug in (1,1): _____ OR _____

$$1 = \frac{-1}{4} + b \rightarrow b = 1 + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{5}{4}$$

$$\boxed{y = \frac{-1}{4}x + \frac{5}{4}}$$

use:

$$y - y_0 = m(x - x_0)$$

$$(x_0, y_0) = (1, 1):$$

$$y - 1 = \frac{-1}{4}(x - 1)$$

$$y = \frac{-1}{4}x + \frac{1}{4} + 1$$

$$\boxed{y = \frac{-1}{4}x + \frac{5}{4}}$$

8. If $f(x) = x^3$, evaluate the difference quotient $\frac{f(2+h) - f(2)}{h}$ and simplify your answer.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{(2+h)^3 - 8}{h} = \frac{8 + 3 \cdot 2^2 \cdot h + 3 \cdot 2 \cdot h^2 + h^3 - 8}{h} = \frac{h(3 \cdot 4 + 6 \cdot h + h^2)}{h} \\
 &= \boxed{12 + 6h + h^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

9. Find the domain of the function

a)

$$\frac{\sqrt[3]{x}}{x^2 + 1}$$

denom: $x^2 + 1 = 0$
 $x^2 = -1$
 No sol.

$\sqrt[3]{x}$ is def for all real num.

$$\boxed{D = \mathbb{R}}$$

b)

$$\sqrt{4-x} + \sqrt{x^2-1}$$

$\sqrt{4-x}$: $4-x \geq 0$
 $4 \geq x$

$\sqrt{x^2-1}$: $x^2-1 \geq 0$
 $x^2 \geq 1$

$|x| \geq 1$

$x \geq 1$ or $x \leq -1$

$$\boxed{(-\infty, -1] \cup [1, 4]}$$

10. Find the minimum value of the function $f(x) = \frac{\cos 3x}{2}$. (no justification necessary)

$$\boxed{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

Give at least one value of x where the minimum value of f is attained.

$$\cos(3x) = -1 \text{ if } 3x = \pi \Rightarrow x = \frac{\pi}{3}$$

$$\text{Thus } \frac{\cos(3 \cdot \frac{\pi}{3})}{2} = -1 \Rightarrow \boxed{x = \frac{\pi}{3}} \left(+ \frac{2}{3} k \cdot \pi \right)$$

11. Simplify

$$x^{-\frac{2}{5}} \cdot x^2 = x^{-\frac{2}{5}+2} = x^{\frac{-2+10}{5}} = \underline{x^{\frac{8}{5}}} = \underline{5\sqrt{x^8}} = \underline{x \cdot 5\sqrt{x^3}}$$

12. Are the following statements true?

a) $\sqrt{x^2 + y^2} = x + y$

NO

b) $(a + b)^{-1} = a^{-1} + b^{-1}$

NO

c) $\frac{1}{a+b} = \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b}$

NO