

# Key

Exam 1 Practice :: Math 111 :: September 11, 2015

1. Simplify each expression

$$(a) \left(\frac{1}{-x}\right)^{-3} = (-x)^3 = -x^3$$

$$(b) (-x)^4 - x^4 = x^4 - x^4 = 0$$

$$(c) \frac{x^{11}}{x^{12}} - \frac{x^{12}}{x^{11}} = \frac{1}{x} - x = \frac{1-x^2}{x}$$

$$(d) \frac{\sqrt[5]{yx^4}}{\sqrt{x^4}} = \frac{y^{1/5} x^{4/5}}{x^2} = \frac{y^{1/5}}{x^{2-4/5}} = \frac{y^{1/5}}{x^{10/5-4/5}} = \frac{y^{1/5}}{x^{6/5}} = \frac{y^{1/5}}{x x^{1/5}} = \frac{1}{x} \left(\frac{y}{x}\right)^{1/5}$$

$\sqrt[5]{x^6} = \sqrt[5]{x^5 \cdot x} = \sqrt[5]{x^5} \cdot \sqrt[5]{x} = x x^{1/5}$

$$(f) \sqrt[4]{\frac{x^8}{y^{16}}} = \frac{x^{8/4}}{y^{16/4}} = \frac{x^2}{y^4}$$

$$(g) (x^4)^{-5/4} = x^{(4)(-5/4)} = x^{-5} = \frac{1}{x^5}$$

multiply exponents

2. Rationalize the denominator and simplify

$$(a) \frac{6}{\sqrt{x}+1} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x}-1}{\sqrt{x}-1} = \frac{6(\sqrt{x}-1)}{(\sqrt{x}+1)(\sqrt{x}-1)} = \frac{6(\sqrt{x}-1)}{(\sqrt{x})^2 - \sqrt{x} + \sqrt{x} - 1} = \frac{6(\sqrt{x}-1)}{x-1}$$

$$(b) \frac{6}{\sqrt{x}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x}} = \frac{6\sqrt{x}}{x}$$

3. Simplify each expression, eliminating any negative exponents

$$\begin{aligned}
 (a) \quad & \sqrt{y^2x^3} - \sqrt{x} = \sqrt{y^2}\sqrt{x^3} - \sqrt{x} \\
 & = y \cdot \sqrt{x^2}\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{x} \\
 & = yx\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{x} = \boxed{\sqrt{x}(yx-1)}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (b) \quad & (3a^3b^3)^2(2ab^2) \\
 & 3^2(a^3)^2(b^3)^2 \cdot (2ab^2) = 9a^6b^6 \cdot 2ab^2 = \boxed{18a^7b^8}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$(c) \quad \sqrt[3]{\frac{27}{x^{-6}}} = \frac{\sqrt[3]{27}}{\sqrt[3]{x^{-6}}} = \frac{3}{x^{-6/3}} = \frac{3}{x^2} = \boxed{3x^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (d) \quad & \left(\frac{2x^{-3/4}y^3}{x^2y^{1/2}}\right)^{-4} = \left(\frac{x^2y^{1/2}}{2x^{-3/4}y^3}\right)^4 = \frac{(x^2)^4(y^{1/2})^4}{2(x^{-3/4})^4(y^3)^4} = \frac{x^8y^2}{16x^{-3}y^{12}} = \frac{x^8y^2}{16y^9} = \\
 & = \boxed{\frac{x^8}{16y^7}}
 \end{aligned}$$

4. Perform the indicated operations and simplify

$$\begin{aligned}
 (a) \quad & (x-y)^2 + x^2 - y^2 \\
 & = (x-y)(x-y) + x^2 - y^2 \\
 & = x^2 - xy - xy + y^2 + x^2 - y^2 = 2x^2 - 2xy
 \end{aligned}$$

*cancel*

$$\begin{aligned}
 (c) \quad & (\sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{b})(\sqrt[3]{a} - \sqrt[3]{b}) \\
 & (a^{1/3} + b^{1/3})(a^{1/3} - b^{1/3}) = a^{1/3} \cdot a^{1/3} - \underset{\text{cancel}}{a^{1/3}b^{1/3}} + \underset{\text{cancel}}{b^{1/3}a^{1/3}} - b^{1/3}b^{1/3} \\
 & = a^{2/3} - b^{2/3} = \boxed{a^{2/3} - b^{2/3}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (d) \quad & (ab)^2 - a^2b^2 + \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^2 - \frac{a^2}{b^2} \\
 & a^2b^2 - a^2b^2 + \frac{a^2}{b^2} - \frac{a^2}{b^2} = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

2

5. Factor each expression completely

$$(a) 25 - 9y^2 = (5^2 - (3y)^2) = (5 - 3y)(5 + 3y)$$

$$(b) 3x^2 + 7x - 20$$

$$(3x - 5)(x + 4)$$

$$\text{since this follows to: } 3x^2 + 12x - 5x - 20$$

$$= 3x^2 + 7x - 20$$

✓

$$(c) x^6 + x^4 + x^2 + 1 = (x^4 + x^2) + (x^2 + 1)$$

$$= x^4(x^2 + 1) + (x^2 + 1)$$

$$= (x^2 + 1)(x^4 + 1)$$

$$(d) (x^2 - 1)^{5/4} 4x^{3/2} - x^{-1/2}(x^2 - 1)^{1/4}$$

$$x^{-1/2}(x^2 - 1)^{1/4} \left( 4x^{(3/2 - (-1/2))} (x^2 - 1)^{(5/4 - 1/4)} - 1 \right)$$

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

$$(f) x^3y^2 - 9xy = xy(x^2y - 9)$$

6. Simplify the rational expression

$$(a) \frac{3}{x^2 - \frac{1}{x}} = \frac{3}{\frac{2x}{x} - \frac{1}{x}} = \left( \frac{3}{\frac{2x-1}{x}} \right) = \frac{3}{1} \cdot \frac{x}{2x-1} = \boxed{\frac{3x}{2x-1}}$$

$$\left( \frac{x-10}{x-10} \right) \frac{2}{x+1} - \frac{1}{x^2 - 9x - 10} = \frac{2(x-10)}{(x-10)(x+1)} - \frac{1}{(x-10)(x+1)} \\ = \frac{2x-20-1}{(x-10)(x+1)} = \boxed{\frac{2x-21}{(x-10)(x+1)}}$$

$$(b) \frac{\frac{y^2}{x} - \frac{x}{y^2}}{\frac{1}{y} - \frac{1}{x^2}} = \frac{\frac{y^2 y^2}{y^2 x} - \frac{x}{y^2} x}{\frac{x^2 1}{x^2 y} - \frac{1}{x^2} \frac{y}{y}} = \frac{\frac{y^4 - x^2}{y^2 x}}{\frac{x^2 - y}{x^2 y}} \\ = \frac{y^4 - x^2}{y^2 x} \cdot \frac{x^2 y}{x^2 - y} \\ = \boxed{\frac{(y^4 - x^2)x}{(x^2 - y)y}}$$