



Algebraic Fractions (Simplifying)



REVISE THIS TOPIC



1 Simplify fully $\frac{3a + 9}{a^3 + 3a^2}$

$$\frac{3(a+3)}{a^2(a+3)}$$

$$\frac{3}{a^2}$$

(Total for Question 1 is 2 marks)

2 Simplify fully $\frac{2x^2 - 2xy}{xy^4 - y^5}$

$$\frac{2x(x-y)}{y^4(x-y)}$$

$$\frac{2x}{y^4}$$

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

3 Simplify fully $\frac{3b + b^3}{4b^2 + 12}$

$$\frac{b(3+b^2)}{4(b^2+3)}$$

$$\frac{b}{4}$$

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)



4 Simplify fully $\frac{10n^2 - 90}{2n - 6}$

$$\frac{10(n^2 - 9)}{2(n - 3)} = \frac{10(n + 3)(n - 3)}{2(n - 3)}$$

[or $5n + 15$]

$5(n + 3)$

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

5 Simplify fully $\frac{4k^2 - 1}{6k^3 - 3k^2}$

$$\frac{(2k + 1)(2k - 1)}{3k^2(2k - 1)}$$

$\frac{2k + 1}{3k^2}$

(Total for Question 5 is 2 marks)

6 Simplify fully $\frac{4c^3 - 100c}{4c + 20}$

$$\frac{4c(c^2 - 25)}{4(c + 5)} = \frac{4c(c + 5)(c - 5)}{4(c + 5)}$$

[or $c^2 - 5c$]

$c(c - 5)$

(Total for Question 6 is 2 marks)



7 Simplify fully $\frac{2x^2 - 32}{x^2 + 9x + 20}$

$$\frac{2(x^2 - 16)}{(x+4)(x+5)} = \frac{2(x+4)(x-4)}{(x+4)(x+5)}$$

$$\left[\text{or } \frac{2x-8}{x+5} \right]$$

$$\frac{2(x-4)}{x+5}$$

(Total for Question 7 is 3 marks)

8 Simplify fully $\frac{a^2 - 11a + 30}{a^2 - 12a + 36}$

$$\frac{(a-5)(a-6)}{(a-6)(a-6)}$$

$$\frac{a-5}{a-6}$$

(Total for Question 8 is 3 marks)

9 Simplify fully $\frac{y^2 - 7y - 18}{y^2 - 81}$

$$\frac{(y+2)(y-9)}{(y+9)(y-9)}$$

$$\frac{y+2}{y+9}$$

(Total for Question 9 is 3 marks)



10 Simplify fully $\frac{9x^2 - 25}{3x^2 + 14x + 15}$

$$\frac{(3x+5)(3x-5)}{(3x+5)(x+3)}$$

$$\frac{3x-5}{x+3}$$

(Total for Question 10 is 3 marks)

11 Simplify fully $\frac{4y^2 - 9}{2y^2 - 11y + 12}$

$$\frac{(2y+3)(2y-3)}{(2y-3)(y-4)}$$

$$\frac{2y+3}{y-4}$$

(Total for Question 11 is 3 marks)

12 Simplify fully $\frac{n^2 + 11n + 24}{5n^2 + 22n + 21}$

$$\frac{(n+8)(n+3)}{(5n+7)(n+3)}$$

$$\frac{n+8}{5n+7}$$

(Total for Question 12 is 3 marks)



13 Simplify fully $\frac{45 - 20x^2}{2x^2 + 5x + 3}$

$$\frac{5(9 - 4x^2)}{(2x+3)(x+1)} = \frac{5(3-2x)(3+2x)}{(2x+3)(x+1)}$$

$$\left[\text{or } \frac{15-10x}{x+1} \right]$$

$$\frac{5(3-2x)}{x+1}$$

(Total for Question 13 is 3 marks)

14 Simplify fully $\frac{3x^2 + 19x + 6}{9x^2 + 6x + 1}$

$$\frac{(3x+1)(x+6)}{(3x+1)(3x+1)}$$

$$\frac{x+6}{3x+1}$$

(Total for Question 14 is 3 marks)

15 Simplify fully $\frac{3x^2 - 300}{6x^2 + 55x - 50}$

$$\frac{3(x^2 - 100)}{(6x-5)(x+10)} = \frac{3(x+10)(x-10)}{(6x-5)(x+10)}$$

$$\left[\text{or } \frac{3x-30}{6x-5} \right]$$

$$\frac{3(x-10)}{6x-5}$$

(Total for Question 15 is 3 marks)



16 Show that $\frac{12x - 36}{x^2 + 5x} \times \frac{x^2 + 9x + 20}{3x - 9}$ can be written in the form $a + \frac{b}{x}$

where a and b are integers.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{12(x-3)}{x(x+5)} \times \frac{(x+4)(x+5)}{3(x-3)} \\
 &= \frac{12(x-3)(x+4)(x+5)}{3x(x+5)(x-3)} \\
 &= \frac{4(x+4)}{x} \\
 &= \frac{4x + 16}{x} \\
 &= 4 + \frac{16}{x}
 \end{aligned}$$

(Total for Question 16 is 4 marks)

17 Show that $(10x - 35) \div \frac{2x^2 - 15x + 28}{2x^2 - 32}$ can be written in the form $ax + b$

where a and b are integers.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 5(2x-7) \times \frac{2(x+4)(x-4)}{(2x-7)(x-4)} \\
 &= \frac{10(2x-7)(x+4)(x-4)}{(2x-7)(x-4)} \\
 &= 10(x+4) \\
 &= 10x + 40
 \end{aligned}$$

(Total for Question 17 is 4 marks)



18 Show that $9x^{-3} \times \frac{3x^5 + 10x^4}{9x^2 - 100} \div \frac{x^2}{6x - 20}$ can be written in the form $\frac{a}{x}$

where a is an integer.

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{9}{x^3} \times \frac{x^4(3x+10)}{(3x+10)(3x-10)} \times \frac{2(3x-10)}{x^2} \\
 &= \frac{18x^4(3x+10)(3x-10)}{x^5(3x+10)(3x-10)} \\
 &= \frac{18}{x}
 \end{aligned}$$

(Total for Question 18 is 4 marks)

19 $2x - \frac{x^3 - x^2}{x^2 + 2x - 3} \times \frac{2x^2 - 1}{x^2}$ can be written in the form $\frac{ax + b}{x + 3}$

where a and b are integers. Work out the values of a and b .

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

$a = \underline{\hspace{1cm}6\hspace{1cm}}$

$b = \underline{\hspace{1cm}1\hspace{1cm}}$

(Total for Question 19 is 4 marks)

