

A1 Algebra I EOC

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CR
Symbol indicates section aligns to Texas College and Career Readiness Standards.

Category 1 – Number and Algebraic Methods

11. SIMPLIFYING EXPRESSIONS WITH EXPONENTS AND RADICALS **CR**

base: value raised to the power shown by the exponent (superscript)

Example: In $3x^2y$, base x is raised to the second (2^{nd}) power (squared); if there is no exponent, the power is 1 (i.e., $3x^2y = 3^1x^2y^1$).

root: shown with fractional exponent or radical sign, $\sqrt{\quad}$ (e.g., $x^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{x}$).

Law of Exponents Description Examples
 $a^n = 1 \cdot \underbrace{a \cdot a \cdot a \dots}_{n \text{ times}}$ powers of **positive integers** → repeated **multiplication** by base
 $2^3 2^2 = (1)(2)(2)(2)(2)(b) = 8b^2$
 $4^0 = 1$ multiply by **4 zero times**
 $9^1 = 1 \times 9 = 9$; $3^2 = 1 \times 3 \times 3 = 9$

$a^{-n} = 1 \div \underbrace{a \div a \div a \dots}_{n \text{ times}}$ negative integers → repeated **division**
 $a^1 = 1 \times a = a$ $a^{-1} = 1 \div a = \frac{1}{a}$
 $5^{-2} = 1 \div 5 \div 5 = \frac{1}{5^2} = \frac{1}{25} = \frac{4}{100} = 0.04$

$a^m a^n = a^{(m+n)}$ to multiply terms*, add exponents; to divide, subtract exponents
 $(a^2)(a^3) = a^{2+3} = a^5$
 $(\sqrt{7})(\sqrt{7}) = 7^{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}} = 7^1 = 7$
 $\frac{a^m}{a^n} = a^{(m-n)}$ *Must have same base.
 $\frac{2a^5}{2^4 a^3} = \frac{a^{5-3}}{2^{4-1}} = \frac{a^2}{2^3} = \frac{a^2}{8}$

$(a^m)^n = a^{mn}$ to raise a term to a power, multiply exponents; apply the power to all the term's constants and variables
 $(g^2)^3 = g^{2 \cdot 3} = g^6$
 $(2a^5)^3 = 2^{(1 \cdot 3)} a^{5 \cdot 3} = 2^3 a^{15}$
 $(\frac{2a^3}{b})^2 = \frac{2^{(1 \cdot 2)} a^{3 \cdot 2}}{b^{(1 \cdot 2)}} = \frac{2^2 a^6}{b^2}$

$a^{\frac{1}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{a}$ a value raised to power $\frac{1}{n}$ equals the " n^{th} root of" the value; $a^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{a}$ (square root)
 $2^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{2}$
 $\sqrt[3]{27} = 27^{\frac{1}{3}} = (3^3)^{\frac{1}{3}} = 3$
 $\sqrt[3]{x^3} = x$

Examples: Group numbers and common bases to simplify.
 $\sqrt{18} = \sqrt{(9)(2)} = 3\sqrt{2}$
 $\frac{16\sqrt{64}}{4^4} = \frac{(16)(8)}{4^4} = \frac{(4^2)(4)(2)}{4^{(4 \cdot 1)}} = \frac{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{4} = \frac{4}{4} = 1$
 $(3x^2y)(4xy^3) = (3)(4)(x^2)(x)(y)(y^3) = 12x^3y^4$
 $(\frac{3}{5a})^{-2} = \frac{3^{-2}}{5^{-2} a^{-2}} = \frac{(\frac{1}{3^2})}{(\frac{1}{5^2 a^2})} = \frac{5^2 a^2}{3^2} = \frac{25a^2}{9}$

10A. SIMPLIFYING POLYNOMIAL EXPRESSIONS

polynomial: expression with more than one term (degree = highest power of x)

Rule or Reminder

add/subtract polynomials: like terms only

distributive property: $a(b+c) = ab+ac$

multiplying two polynomials: multiply each term in the 1^{st} polynomial by each term in the 2^{nd} polynomial; use a grid or, for two binomials, use **FOIL: First, Outer, Inner, Last**. Recall $a-b = a+(-b)$ to avoid sign errors.

dividing two polynomials, polynomial long division: 1. write terms from highest to lowest powers (missing powers need coefficient of 0); 2. divide only the first terms at each step; 3. subtract the value of the dividend; 4. bring down the whole polynomial; 5. repeat if any, is expressed as $\text{divisor} \cdot \text{quotient} + \text{remainder}$.

PEMDAS order of operations: **P**arentheses, **E**xponents, **M**ultiply/Divide left to right, **A**d/Subtract left to right.

factoring and dividing of squares

common factor, GCF: largest value by which each polynomial is divisible; reverse distributive property.

Example: $28x^3 - 8x^2 = 4x(7x^2 - 2x)$

binomial: $(a+b)(a+b) = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$

FOIL to show difference of squares: $(a+b)(a-b) = a^2 - ab + ab - b^2 = a^2 - b^2$

Examples: Decide if each polynomial can be (1) factored by GCF, (2) binomial, or (3) trinomial using the difference of squares.

$27x^2 - 3 = 3(3x^2 - 1) = 3(3x - 1)(3x + 1)$

$144x^2 + 9 \rightarrow \text{not possible}$

$16x^4 - 81 = (4x^2 - 9)(4x^2 + 9) = (2x - 3)(2x + 3)(4x^2 + 9)$

cancelling: cancel common factors found in both numerator and denominator

Example: Use cancelling: $\frac{2x^2 - 72}{2x + 12} = \frac{2(x^2 - 36)}{2(x+6)} = \frac{(x-6)(x+6)}{(x+6)} = x-6$

10B. FACTORING TRINOMIALS

A trinomial (3 terms) in the form $ax^2 + bx + c$ can be "unFOILed" (factored) and rewritten as $(mx + p)(nx + q)$ if 3 conditions are met:

- $mn = a$
- $m \cdot q + n \cdot p = b$
- $p \cdot q = c$

Factor out any GCF first. If the leading coefficient of x^2 is negative, factor out -1 first.

For $x^2 + bx + c$, you know 1. $mn = a$ (here $a=1$), so you only need to find p and q , such that $p+q=b$ and $p \cdot q=c$.

Example: Factor $3x^2 + 6x - 189$. $\rightarrow 3(x^2 + 2x - 63)$. $\rightarrow p$ and q must have opposite signs because c is negative. \rightarrow positive value must be $+2$ greater magnitude than the negative value. \rightarrow factor pair of 63 $\{1 \times 63; 3 \times 21; 7 \times 9\}$ is 2 apart: $3(x+9)(x-7)$

If a trinomial can be rewritten as $(x+p)^2$ or $(x-q)^2$, then it is a perfect square trinomial; for $(x+p)^2$, $mp + mp = 2mp = b$

Examples: Factor $x^2 + 6x + 9$ and $x^2 - 6x + 9$ are squares of $2x$ and 9 . Check to see whether the middle term is a perfect square, $(2x+9)^2 = 4x^2 + 36x + 81$

$x^2 + 6x - 9 \rightarrow -(x^2 - 6x + 9) = -(x-3)(x-3) = -(x-3)^2$

$x^2 + 6x - 9$ must have same signs because 9 is positive; and those signs must be negative signs because -9 is negative ($p+q = -6$)

factor pair of 9 $\{1 \times 9; 3 \times 3\}$ sums to -6 : $-(x-3)(x-3) = -(x-3)^2$

by thinking/guessing/checking, *If p_{guess} and q_{guess} result in $p+q=b$ and $p \cdot q=c$, then the correct p and q values are $-p_{\text{guess}}$ and $-q_{\text{guess}}$.

Box Method: If possible, factor $6x^2 - 11x - 10$. \rightarrow find p and q such that $p+q=b$ and $p \cdot q=c$. \rightarrow find m, n, p, q such that $b = -11$ and $c = -10$.

Box Method Steps

Box Method Steps	Example
Put ax^2 in top left and c in bottom right of box.	$6x^2 - 10$
Multiply $a \cdot c$; find the product's two factors that also sum to b .	$6 \cdot (-10) = -60$ $4 \cdot (-15) = -60$ $4 + (-15) = -11$
Add two factors to box as coefficients of x .	$6x^2 - 15x$ $4x - 10$
Find GCF of each row and column (or -GCF as needed). Write factored form: $(2x-5)(3x+2)$	$3x \cdot 6x^2 - 15x$ $+2 \cdot 4x - 10$

10C. RECOGNIZING, EVALUATING, AND SOLVING FUNCTIONS

domain: set of all defined x -values

range: set of all defined y -values

function, $f(x)$: relation in which each x -value (input) has one y -value (output)

has no repeated x -values

passes vertical line test, VLT (cannot cross graph at more than one point)

Examples: Decide whether each is (\checkmark) or is not (\times) a function.

1. \times ($x=2$ repeats)

2. \checkmark function

3. There are 4 cups, c , per box, b . $\rightarrow c = 4b$; $\{(0,0), (1,4), (2,8), \dots\}$ is set of (b,c) \checkmark function

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