

## Assignments

- \* Worksheet: Simplifying Rational Expressions (12 points) *One Note-Unit 7*
- \* IXL: Algebra 1 - GG 3: Simplify Rational Expressions (10 points)

## Last Tuesday's Warm-up

Solve for  $x$ . Show work.

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

*Handwritten work:*

$$4x^2 - 4x = 2x^2 - 3x$$

$$-2x^2 + 3x \quad -2x^2 + 3x$$

$$2x^2 - x = 0$$

$$x(2x-1) = 0$$

~~$x=0$~~  *extraneous*

$$2x-1=0$$

$$+1 \quad +1$$

$$\frac{2x}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{1}{2}$$

## Warm-up

Simplify the expression:

$$\frac{3x^2}{x^6xy}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{x^2}{x^6} \cdot \frac{1}{y} = \frac{x}{2y}$$

# Simplifying Rational Expressions

## 11.4

Simplify the following expressions.

$$1. \quad \frac{48x^2}{8} = \frac{6x^2}{1} \\ = 6x^2$$

$$2. \quad \frac{5x}{5} = \frac{1x}{5} \\ = \frac{x}{5}$$

$$3. \quad \frac{2x^3}{5y^6}$$

### Rational Numbers and Rational Expressions:

- A *rational number* is a number that can be written as the quotient of two integers.
  - Examples:  $\frac{1}{5}$ ,  $\frac{8}{3}$ , and  $\frac{9}{1}$
- A *rational expression* is a fraction whose numerator, denominator, or both numerator and denominator are nonzero polynomials.
  - Examples:  $\frac{7}{x+1}$ ,  $\frac{5x}{x^2-16}$ , and  $\frac{6x+1}{x^2+3}$
- A rational expression is undefined when the denominator is equal to zero.
- To simplify a fraction, you factor the numerator and the denominator. Then divide out any common factors. A rational expression is simplified if its numerator and denominator have no factors in common (other than 1 or -1).

For what values of the variable is the rational expression undefined?

4.  $\frac{7}{x+5}$

$$\begin{aligned} x+5 &= 0 \\ -5 & -5 \\ \hline x &= -5 \end{aligned}$$

5.  $\frac{x+9}{x^2-4}$

$$\begin{aligned} & (x+2)(x-2) \\ x+2 &= 0 & x-2 &= 0 \\ -2 & -2 & +2 & +2 \\ \hline x &= -2 & x &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

6.  $\frac{x-1}{x^2-x-30}$

$$\begin{aligned} & (x-6)(x+5) \\ x-6 &= 0 & x+5 &= 0 \\ +6 & +6 & -5 & -5 \\ \hline x &= 6, -5 \end{aligned}$$

Simplify the following rational expressions.

7.  $\frac{2x}{x(x+3)}$

$$\frac{2x}{(x+3)}$$

8.  $\frac{x(x^2+5)}{x}$

$$\frac{(x^2+5)}{x}$$

9.  $\frac{(x+7)}{x}$

Cannot  
be  
simplified

10.  $\frac{15x}{5x-10}$

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

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

11.  $\frac{x^2-9}{2x+6}$

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

$$\frac{x-3}{2}$$

12.  $\frac{x+1}{x^2+4x+3}$

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

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

13.  $\frac{4x^2+8x+4}{5x^2+10x+5}$

$$\frac{4(\cancel{x^2+2x+1})}{5(\cancel{x^2+2x+1})}$$

$$\frac{4}{5}$$

14.  $\frac{x^3-x}{x^3+5x^2-6x}$

$$\frac{\cancel{x}(x^2-1)}{\cancel{x}(x^2+5x-6)}$$

$$\frac{(x+1)(\cancel{x-1})}{(x+6)(\cancel{x-1})} = \frac{x+1}{x+6}$$

15.  $\frac{3x^2-11x+10}{x^2-4}$

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

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

$$\frac{3x-5}{x+2}$$

16.  $\frac{3x}{6xy}$

$$\frac{\cancel{3} x}{\cancel{6} xy} = \frac{x}{2y}$$

17.  $\frac{2x}{x(x+3)}$

$$\frac{\cancel{2} x}{x(\cancel{x+3})}$$

18.  $\frac{x^2+6x+9}{x^2-9}$

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

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

19.  $\frac{6x^2-24}{3x+6}$

$$= \frac{6(x^2-4)}{3(x+2)} = \frac{\cancel{6}(x+2)(\cancel{x-2})}{\cancel{3}(x+2)} = \frac{2(x-2)}{1}$$

$$= \boxed{2(x-2)} \quad \text{leave factored}$$

## Assignments

- \* Worksheet: Simplifying Rational Expressions (12 points) *One Note*
- \* IXL: Algebra 1 - GG 3: Simplify Rational Expressions (10 points) *Smart Score*  
*10*
- \* IXL: Algebra 1 - AA 8 (5 points) ✓
- \* Keystone Practice Packet - multiple choice (20 points) *Forms Quiz*