

Answer the following true/false questions by circling the correct word.

1. A common denominator is needed to multiply rational expressions. True / False
2. A common denominator is needed to add or subtract rational expressions. True / False
3. The same rules apply to fractions with variables and fractions without variables. True / False

Multiplication of Rational Expressions

- 1) Factor the numerators and denominators so there is only multiplication
- 2) Cancel anything in the numerator with anything in the denominator

Division of Rational Expressions

- 1) Flip any fraction being divided and change to a multiplication problem

Perform the indicated operation. Simplify the result.

4. $\frac{x^3}{4} \cdot \frac{2}{x^2}$

5. $\frac{x+1}{x} \cdot \frac{x^3}{(x+1)^2}$

6. $\frac{x+5}{x} \div \frac{x+5}{2x}$

7. $\frac{2x+8}{-3x^4} \cdot \frac{9x^3}{8x+32}$

8. $\frac{4x^2y^3}{x^5y^6} \cdot \frac{xy}{20x^3}$

9. $\frac{81x^9}{y^4} \cdot \frac{x^2}{36x^5y}$

10. $\frac{12x^2y}{5y^2} \div \frac{3x^2}{2xy}$

11. $\frac{x^2-3x+2}{25x} \div \frac{x-1}{5x^2}$

12. $\frac{5x^2-20}{25x^2} \div \frac{x^2+6x+8}{x^2+10x+24}$

Adding/Subtracting Rational Expressions

- 1) Factor the denominators
- 2) Find the LCD
- 3) Multiply by $\frac{\text{missing}}{\text{missing}}$
- 4) Multiply out the numerators
- 5) Combine Like Terms
Keep the denominators the same

13. $\frac{5x^2-8x}{x^2-9} - \frac{4x+9x^2}{x^2-9}$

14. $\frac{3x+1}{x+3} + \frac{2x-1}{x+3}$

15. $\frac{7}{x-2} - \frac{x}{x-2}$

16. $\frac{x}{x^2+x-2} + \frac{1}{x+2}$

17. $\frac{x}{x^2-x-30} - \frac{1}{x+5}$

18. $\frac{5x}{x^2-2x-15} + \frac{2x}{x-5}$

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

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Multiplication of Rational Expressions

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Simplify the complex fraction.

$$20. \frac{5 + \frac{1}{4}}{2 + \frac{2}{3}}$$

$$21. \frac{\frac{x}{3} - 4}{5 + \frac{1}{x}}$$

$$22. \frac{\frac{x+3}{3x^2}}{\frac{(x+3)^2}{6x^2}}$$

$$23. \frac{\frac{2}{x^2-4} - \frac{1}{x+2}}{\frac{2}{4x-12}}$$

$$24. \frac{\frac{x}{8} - \frac{3}{4x}}{\frac{4}{x+4} - \frac{5}{x}}$$

$$25. \frac{\frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{8x}}{\frac{4x}{x-2} + \frac{6}{2x-4}}$$

Solving Rational Expressions

- 1) Get each fraction to have the LCD (to find the LCD, you might need to factor the denominator)
- 2) Multiply the entire problem by the LCD (distribute the LCD)
- 3) Solve for x
 - a. If x^2 problem: set = 0
 - b. If x problem: get x's on one side and the numbers on the other side

Solve the equation using any method. Check each solution.

$$26. \frac{3x}{4} = \frac{(x+1)}{2}$$

$$27. \frac{10}{x+3} + \frac{10}{3} = 6$$

$$28. \frac{2x-9}{x-7} + \frac{x}{2} = \frac{5}{x-7}$$

$$29. \frac{2}{x} = \frac{x}{x^2-8}$$

$$30. \frac{4}{x^2+3x-4} + 3 = \frac{7}{x+4}$$

$$31. \frac{x+3}{x-4} = \frac{5x+14}{x^2+2x-24}$$

APPLICATIONS

32. At a factory, gallons of paint are produced by a machine in accordance to the formula $G = 40h - \frac{560}{h}$ where G = the number of gallons produced, and h = the number of hours the paint-making machine works. How many hours does the machine need to work to produce 200 gallons of paint?

33. The number of bottles produced by a machine at a plant is given by the equation $b = \frac{20m^3 - 120m^2}{m^2 - m - 30}$.

B = the number of bottles, and m = the number of minutes the machine works.

a) Simplify the expression above

b) If the plant's machine works for 10 minutes, how many bottles does it produce?

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