

1. (15 points) Simplify each expression. Answers for a) and (b) should contain positive exponents only. In (c) write the answer in scientific notation.

(a) $-4^3 - 7^0 + 7^1 = -64 - 1 + 7 = -58$

(b) $\frac{(x^3)^{-2}(x^{-1})^5}{(x^{-3})^{-4}} = \frac{x^{-6}x^{-5}}{x^{12}} = \frac{x^{-11}}{x^{12}} = \frac{1}{x^{23}}$

(c) $\frac{1.5 \times 10^{-2}}{7.5 \times 10^{-8}} = \frac{1.5}{7.5} \times \frac{10^{-2}}{10^{-8}} = 0.2 \times 10^6 = 2 \times 10^5$

2. (16 points) Given two polynomials, $A = 7x^2 + 3x - 6$ and $B = 5x^2 - 4x + 7$.

(a) Substitute and simplify $A - B = 7x^2 + 3x - 6 - (5x^2 - 4x + 7) = 2x^2 + 7x - 13$

(b) Substitute and simplify $A \cdot B = (7x^2 + 3x - 6)(5x^2 - 4x + 7) = 35x^4 - 28x^3 + 15x^3 + 49x^2 - 12x^2 - 30x^2 + 24x + 21x - 42 = 35x^4 - 13x^3 + 7x^2 + 45x - 42$

To be sure, try the grid method:

\times	$7x^2$	$3x$	-6
$5x^2$	$35x^4$	$15x^3$	$-30x^2$
$-4x$	$-28x^3$	$-12x^2$	$24x$
7	$49x^2$	$21x$	-42

- (c) Evaluate both A and B when $x = 2$.

SOLN: $A = 7 \cdot 2^2 + 3 \cdot 2 - 6 = 28 + 6 - 6 = 28$, $B = 5 \cdot 2^2 - 4 \cdot 2 + 7 = 20 - 8 + 7 = 19$

- (d) Evaluate both $A - B$ and $A \cdot B$ when $x = 2$. This should be a check for parts (a) and (b).

SOLN: When $x = 2$, $A - B = 2 \cdot 2^2 + 7 \cdot 2 - 13 = 8 + 14 - 13 = 9$, consistent with $28 - 19 = 9$.

Also, when $x = 2$, $A \cdot B = 35 \cdot 2^4 - 13 \cdot 2^3 + 7 \cdot 2^2 + 45 \cdot 2 - 42$

$= 35 \cdot 16 - 13 \cdot 8 + 7 \cdot 4 + 45 \cdot 2 - 42 = 560 - 104 + 28 + 90 - 42 = 532$. Also, $28 \cdot 19 = 532$.

3. (14 points) Do long division. Relate the dividend, divisor, quotient and remainder in an equation.

(a)
$$\frac{3x^2 - 10x + 7}{3x - 2}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} x - \frac{8}{3} \\ \hline 3x - 2 \Big) 3x^2 - 10x + 7 \\ 3x^2 - 2x \\ \hline - 8x + 7 \\ - 8x + \frac{16}{3} \\ \hline \frac{5}{3} \end{array}$$

Thus $3x^2 - 10x + 7 = (3x - 2) \left(x - \frac{8}{3} \right) + \frac{5}{3}$

(b)
$$\frac{2x^3 - 7x^2 + 6x + 10}{x + 1}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 - 9x + 15 \\ x + 1 \Big) 2x^3 - 7x^2 + 6x + 10 \\ 2x^3 + 2x^2 \\ \hline - 9x^2 + 6x \\ - 9x^2 - 9x \\ \hline 15x + 10 \\ 15x + 15 \\ \hline - 5 \end{array}$$

$2x^3 - 7x^2 + 6x + 10 = (x + 1)(2x^2 - 9x + 15) - 5$

4. (15 points) Factor completely.

$$(a) 3y^2 + 3y - 18 = 3(y^2 + y - 6) = 3(y^2 + (3y - 2y) - 6) = 3[y(y+3) - 2(y+3)] = \boxed{3(y+3)(y-2)}$$

$$(b) 4x^2 - 9 = (2x)^2 - 3^2 = (2x)^2 + 6x - 6x + 3^2 = 2x(2x+3) - 3(2x+3) = \boxed{(2x+3)(2x-3)}$$

$$(c) 2 - 54A^3 = 2(1 - 27A^3) = 2(1^3 - (3A)^3) = \boxed{2(1 - 3A)(1 + 3A + 9A^2)}$$

5. (15 points) Use the zero product principle to find *all* solutions for each equation.

$$(a) x^2 + 2x - 63 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x^2 + 9x - 7x - 63 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x(x+9) - 7(x+9) = 0 \Leftrightarrow (x+9)(x-7) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 7 \text{ or } x = -9.$$

$$(b) 2t^2 = 7t + 15 \Leftrightarrow 2t^2 - 7t - 15 = 0 \Leftrightarrow 2t^2 - 10t + 3t - 15 = 0 \Leftrightarrow 2t(t-5) + 3(t-5) \Leftrightarrow (t-5)(2t+3) = 0 \Leftrightarrow t = 5 \text{ or } t = -\frac{3}{2}$$

$$(c) 4y^3 = 25y \Leftrightarrow 4y^3 - 25y = 0 \Leftrightarrow y(4y^2 - 25) = 0 \Leftrightarrow y(2y-5)(2y+5) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \boxed{y=0 \text{ or } y=\pm\frac{5}{2}}$$

6. (10 points) One number is five more than another number. The product of the numbers is 84.

Use the algebraic method to find all such numbers.

SOLN: Let x = the smaller number. Then $x+5$ = the larger number and $x(x+5) = 84$ so $x^2 + 5x - 84 = 0 \Leftrightarrow (x-7)(x+12) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = -12$ or $x = 7$ So the numbers could be $\boxed{-12 \text{ and } -7}$ or $\boxed{7 \text{ and } 12}$.

7. (15 points) A ball is thrown into the air with an upward velocity of 20 feet per second from a building 50 feet high. The equation for the height h of the ball above the ground at time t is $\boxed{h = 50 + 20t - 16t^2}$

- (a) What is the height of the ball at $t = 2$ seconds?

SOLN: At $t = 2$, $h = 50 + 20(2) - 16(4) = 90 - 64 = 26$ feet.

- (b) Write an equation whose solution gives the time when the ball hits the ground.

$$h = 0 \Leftrightarrow 50 + 20t - 16t^2 = 0$$

- (c) Find the time when the ball hits the ground.

$$16t^2 - 20t - 50 = 0 \Leftrightarrow 2(8t^2 - 10t - 25) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2(8t^2 + 10t - 20t - 25) = 0 \Leftrightarrow 2(2t(4t+5) - 5(4t-5)) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2(2t-5)(4t+5) = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{t = \frac{5}{2} = 2.5 \text{ seconds}}$$

