

10.

(i)  $|a + b| - |b|$

Note that  $|b| = \begin{cases} b, & b \geq 0 \\ -b, & b \leq 0 \end{cases}$  and  $|a + b| = \begin{cases} a + b, & a + b \geq 0 \\ -a - b, & a + b \leq 0 \end{cases} = \begin{cases} a + b, & a \geq -b \\ -a - b, & a \leq -b \end{cases}$ . Now simplify  $|a + b| - |b|$  by considering each combination of a piece from  $|a + b|$  with a piece from  $|b|$ .

$$\begin{aligned} |a + b| - |b| &= \begin{cases} |a + b| - |b|, & (b \geq 0) \wedge (a \geq -b) \\ |a + b| - |b|, & (b \geq 0) \wedge (a \leq -b) \\ |a + b| - |b|, & (b \leq 0) \wedge (a \geq -b) \\ |a + b| - |b|, & (b \leq 0) \wedge (a \leq -b) \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} (a + b) - (b), & (b \geq 0) \wedge (a \geq -b) \\ (-a - b) - (b), & (b \geq 0) \wedge (a \leq -b) \\ (a + b) - (-b), & (b \leq 0) \wedge (a \geq -b) \\ (-a - b) - (-b), & (b \leq 0) \wedge (a \leq -b) \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} a, & (b \geq 0) \wedge (a \geq -b) \\ -a - 2b, & (b \geq 0) \wedge (a \leq -b) \\ a + 2b, & (b \leq 0) \wedge (a \geq -b) \\ -a, & (b \leq 0) \wedge (a \leq -b) \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

(ii)  $|(|x| - 1)|$

Note that  $|x| = \begin{cases} x, & x \geq 0 \\ -x, & x \leq 0 \end{cases}$  and  $|(|x| - 1)| = \begin{cases} |x| - 1, & |x| - 1 \geq 0 \\ 1 - |x|, & |x| - 1 \leq 0 \end{cases}$ . For each piece of  $|(|x| - 1)|$ , we find the intervals of  $x$  on which it applies:

$$\mathbf{1)} \quad |x| - 1 \geq 0 \implies |x| \geq 1$$

$$\implies (x \geq 1) \vee (-x \geq 1)$$

(Consider each piece of  $|x|$ )

$$\implies (x \geq 1) \vee (x \leq -1).$$

$$\mathbf{2)} \quad |x| - 1 \leq 0 \implies 0 \leq |x| \leq 1$$

$$\implies (0 \leq x \leq 1) \vee (0 \leq -x \leq 1)$$

$$\implies (0 \leq x \leq 1) \vee (-1 \leq x \leq 0).$$

Thus we can simplify as  $|(|x| - 1)| = \begin{cases} |x| - 1, & (x \geq 1) \vee (x \leq -1) \\ 1 - |x|, & (0 \leq x \leq 1) \vee (-1 \leq x \leq 0) \end{cases} = \begin{cases} x - 1, & (x \geq 1) \\ -x - 1, & (x \leq -1) \\ 1 - x, & (0 \leq x \leq 1) \\ 1 + x, & (-1 \leq x \leq 0) \end{cases}.$

**(iii)**  $|x| - |x^2|$

Note that  $|x| = \begin{cases} x, & x \geq 0 \\ -x, & x \leq 0 \end{cases}$ , and  $(x^2 \geq 0) \implies (|x| - |x^2| = |x| - x^2).$

Now we simplify  $|x| - x^2$  by considering each piece of  $|x|$ :

$$\begin{aligned} |x| - x^2 &= \begin{cases} |x| - x^2, & x \geq 0 \\ |x| - x^2, & x \leq 0 \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} x - x^2, & x \geq 0 \\ -x - x^2, & x \leq 0 \end{cases}. \end{aligned}$$

**(iv)**  $a - |(a - |a|)|$

Note that  $|a| = \begin{cases} a, & a \geq 0 \\ -a, & a \leq 0 \end{cases}$ , and  $|(a - |a|)| = \begin{cases} a - |a|, & a - |a| \geq 0 \\ |a| - a, & a - |a| \leq 0 \end{cases}$ . For each piece of  $|(a - |a|)|$ , we find the intervals of  $x$  on which it applies:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{1)} a - |a| \geq 0 &\implies a \geq |a| \\ &\implies (a \geq a) \vee (a \geq -a) && \text{(Consider each piece of } |a|) \\ &\implies (a \geq 0). && (a \geq a \text{ is redundant}) \\ \mathbf{2)} a - |a| \leq 0 &\implies a \leq |a| \\ &\implies (a \leq a) \vee (a \leq -a) \\ &\implies (a \leq 0). \end{aligned}$$

Now we simplify  $a - |(a - |a|)|$  by considering cases **1)** and **2)** separately:

$$\begin{aligned} a - |(a - |a|)| &= \begin{cases} a - (a - |a|), & a \geq 0 \\ a - (|a| - a), & a \leq 0 \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} a - (a - (a)), & a \geq 0 \\ a - ((-a) - a), & a \leq 0 \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} a, & a \geq 0 \\ 3a, & a \leq 0 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$