

Round 3 Algebra 1

Exponents and Radicals; Equations
involving them

GREATER BOSTON MATHEMATICS LEAGUE

MEET 1 – OCTOBER 1998

ROUND 3 – Algebra 1 – Exponents and Radicals

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

CALCULATORS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THIS ROUND

1. Write in simplest radical form: $5(20^{-1/2}) + (3 + \sqrt{5})^{-1} - (1\frac{7}{9})^{-1/2}$

2. Given $\frac{\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{3} - \sqrt{2}} + \frac{\sqrt{12}}{\sqrt{6} + \sqrt{2}} = a\sqrt{2} + b\sqrt{3} + c\sqrt{6}$, where a , b , and c are rational, find the product abc .

3. Solve for x : $2^{x+1} + 2^{x+2} = 4^{19} - 4^{18}$

GREATER BOSTON MATHEMATICS LEAGUE

MEET 1 – SEPTEMBER 1999

ROUND 3 – Algebra 1 – Exponents and Radicals

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

CALCULATORS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THIS ROUND

1. Compute the following:

$$\frac{(\sqrt[3]{5})(\sqrt[4]{25})}{(\sqrt[6]{0.2})}$$

2. $\sqrt{44 + 16\sqrt{6}}$ in simplest radical form equals $a\sqrt{b} + c\sqrt{d}$, where a , b , c , and d are all positive integers. Compute the product $a b c d$.

3. Compute all real solutions to the equation, $\sqrt{5x-4} - \sqrt{x+8} = 2$.

GREATER BOSTON MATHEMATICS LEAGUE

MEET 1 – SEPTEMBER 2000

ROUND 3 – Algebra 1 – Exponents and Radicals

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

CALCULATORS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THIS ROUND.

1. Find the value of the expression below in the form $\frac{a}{b}$ where a and b are relatively prime positive integers.

$$\sqrt{7\frac{1}{9}} - \sqrt{\frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{16}} + (3 + 3^{-1})^2$$

2. Solve the following equation for x , where $x > 0$:

$$\frac{\sqrt[3]{4\sqrt{x^6}}}{\sqrt[6]{x^4}} = \sqrt{3} \cdot \sqrt[3]{2}$$

3. Simplify the following expression:

$$\left(\frac{2^{-1}}{\sqrt[3]{2}-1}\right)\left(1-2^{\frac{1}{6}}\right)\left(1+2^{\frac{1}{6}}\right)-2^{-2}$$

GREATER BOSTON MATHEMATICS LEAGUE

MEET 1 – OCTOBER 2001

ROUND 3 – Algebra 1 – Exponents and Radicals

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

CALCULATORS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THIS ROUND.

1. Write the following expression in simplest radical form:

$$\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{1 - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{3}}} \right) \left(\sqrt{6} - \frac{5}{\sqrt{6}} \right)$$

2. Find the value of the following expression:

$$\left(8^{-\frac{2}{3}} \right) \left(16^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) + \left(2\frac{1}{4} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \left(\sqrt{3} \right)^{-2}$$

3. Solve the following equation for x :

$$\sqrt{4x+12} + 11 = x - \sqrt[4]{81x^2 + 486x + 729}$$

GREATER BOSTON MATHEMATICS LEAGUE

MEET 1 – OCTOBER 2006

ROUND 3 – Algebra 1 – Exponents and Radicals

1. _____ : _____

2. _____

3. (_____ , _____)

CALCULATORS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THIS ROUND.

1. If $x = 9$, evaluate $\frac{x^{3/2} - (x-1)^{-2/3}}{x^{-1/2}}$ as a simplified ratio of integers.

2. Simplify the following expression: $\frac{3 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{3}}$

3. Given that

$$\frac{a\sqrt{b} + b\sqrt{a}}{a\sqrt{b} - b\sqrt{a}} - \frac{a\sqrt{b} - b\sqrt{a}}{a\sqrt{b} + b\sqrt{a}} = \sqrt{ab} \quad (a > 0, b > 0 \text{ and } a \neq b)$$

solve for a explicitly in terms of b ,

i.e. determine the ordered pair of constants (m, n) for which $a = mb + n$.

GREATER BOSTON MATHEMATICS LEAGUE

MEET 1 – OCTOBER 2007

ROUND 3 – Algebra 1 – Exponents and Radicals

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

CALCULATORS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THIS ROUND.

1. Find the value of A , if $x^{\frac{3}{4}(18-A)} \cdot x^{-\frac{2}{3}A} = x^5$.

2. Compute: $\sqrt{\frac{25}{16}+9}-2^{-\frac{1}{2}}-\left(\frac{1-\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)^2$

3. Simplify

$$\sqrt{19+6\sqrt{10}}+\sqrt{19-6\sqrt{10}}$$

GREATER BOSTON MATHEMATICS LEAGUE

MEET 1 – OCTOBER 2008

ROUND 3 – Algebra 1 – Exponents and Radicals

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

CALCULATORS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THIS ROUND.

1. When simplified, $\sqrt{216} - (2\sqrt{2} - \sqrt{3})^2 = a + b\sqrt{c}$. Find $a + b + c$.

2. Simplify: $\sqrt{6.25} + \sqrt[4]{64} - \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} + \frac{4}{9}} - (\sqrt{2})^3$

3. Find all values of x , $x \in \mathbb{R}$, which make the following statement true: $\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{x-1} = 0.\bar{3}$

GREATER BOSTON MATHEMATICS LEAGUE

MEET 1 – OCTOBER 2009

ROUND 3 – Algebra 1 – Exponents and Radicals

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

CALCULATORS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THIS ROUND.

1. Find all values of x such that $\sqrt{x^2 + x^2 + x^2 + x^2} = \sqrt{\frac{4}{9} + \frac{1}{4}} + \sqrt{7\frac{1}{9}}$.

2. Find all values of x such that $9^x - 3^{x+1} - 3^x + 3 = 0$

3. In simplified form, $\frac{\sqrt{17+12\sqrt{2}}}{\sqrt{3-2\sqrt{2}}} = a + b\sqrt{c}$, where a , b and c are positive integers.
Find the product abc .

GREATER BOSTON MATHEMATICS LEAGUE

MEET 1 – OCTOBER 2010

ROUND 3 – Algebra 1 – Exponents and Radicals

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

CALCULATORS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THIS ROUND.

1. Compute: $\sqrt[3]{\frac{9^{x+1} \cdot 8^{2y}}{3^{2x-2} \cdot 4^{3y-3}}}$

2. Compute: $\left(\sqrt{\sqrt{1-\left(\frac{7}{25}\right)^2}}\right)\left(\frac{\sqrt[4]{576}}{2}\right)\left(\sqrt{\frac{1}{9}+\frac{1}{16}}\right)$

3. Compute: $\sqrt{\frac{(\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{14})^2}{4}}\left(1-\frac{\sqrt{63}}{12}\right)$

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MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE

MARCH 2004

ROUND 2: EXPONENTS & RADICALS

ANSWERS

A) _____

B) _____

C) _____

A) Find the exact value of x : $\sqrt{4 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{4}{9}} = 2 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{x}{3}$

B) Convert to simplified radical form: $\frac{\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{3} + 1} + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{2}}$

C) Solve for x . $8^{\frac{x+2}{x}} = 16^{\frac{x+2}{4}}$

MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE
MARCH 2005
ROUND 2: ALGEBRA ONE RATIONAL EXPONENTS/RADICALS
ANSWERS

A) _____

B) _____

C) _____

A) Find the value of x if $\sqrt{1 + \frac{4}{9} + \frac{9}{16}} = 1 + \frac{2}{3} + \frac{x}{4}$

B) Simplify $(1 + 2\sqrt{3})^2 + \sqrt{\frac{4}{27}} - (\sqrt{3})^3 + \frac{7}{3\sqrt{3}}$

C) Simplify $\frac{3^{n+4} + 3 \cdot 3^{n+1}}{3^{n+6}}$ Express your answer as a simplified fraction.

MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE
MARCH 2006
ROUND 2 ALGEBRA 1: RATIONAL EXPONENTS/RADICALS

ANSWERS

A) _____

B) _____

C) _____

A) If $\sqrt{2^{3^2}} + \sqrt{2^{2^3}} = a + 8\sqrt{b}$, find the ordered pair (a, b) .

B) Express the sum below as a simplified radical:

$$\frac{2}{2\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{7}} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{6}} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{6} + \sqrt{5}} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{5} + 2} + \frac{2}{2 + \sqrt{3}} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{2}}$$

C) Solve for x : $\frac{(1/4)^{3x}}{2(4)^7} = (8^{x+4})^x$

MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE
CONTEST 6 – MARCH 2007
ROUND 2 ALG 1: EXPONENTS AND RADICALS

ANSWERS

A) _____

B) $x =$ _____, $y =$ _____

C) $a =$ _____, $b =$ _____, $c =$ _____

A) The variables a , b , c and d have distinct values of 1, -2, 3 and -4, but not necessarily in that order. Determine the maximum possible value of the expression $a^b - c^d$.

B) Solve for x and y , if $\frac{4^{2x}}{2^{2y}} = \frac{8^{8x}}{64^y}$ and $\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{y-x} = 81$.

C) $\sqrt{48 - 24\sqrt{3}}$ in a simplified form can be written as $a + b\sqrt{c}$ where a , b and c are integers and c is square-free, i.e. contains no factors which are perfect squares (other than 1). Find a , b and c .

MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE
CONTEST 6 - MARCH 2008
ROUND 2 ALG1: EXPONENTS AND RADICALS

ANSWERS

A) _____

B) _____

C) (_____ , _____)

- A) Given: $N = 2x^{-2/3}$
If $x = 64$, find y , where $N = 4^y$.

- B) Simply $\sqrt{4 + \left(x - \frac{1}{x}\right)^2} \cdot \left(\frac{x}{3} + \frac{1}{3x}\right)^{-1}$ so that your answer is free of radicals and/or negative exponents.

- C) Determine the ordered pair of positive integers (A, B) for which the quotient $\frac{\sqrt{49 - 8\sqrt{3}}}{\sqrt{21 + 12\sqrt{3}}}$ may be expressed as $\frac{A - B\sqrt{3}}{3}$.

GBML 1998

ROUND 3

- $5(20^{-1/6}) + (3 + \sqrt{5})^{-1} - (17/9)^{1/6} = 5\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt[6]{20}}\right) + \frac{1}{3 + \sqrt{5}} - \left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^{1/6} = \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2} + \frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{4} - \frac{3}{4} = \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4}$
- $\frac{\sqrt[4]{6}}{3\sqrt[4]{2} + 2\sqrt[4]{3}} + \frac{\sqrt[4]{12}}{2\sqrt[4]{2}} = \frac{\sqrt[4]{6}(\sqrt[4]{3} + \sqrt[4]{2})}{4} + \frac{2\sqrt[4]{3}(\sqrt[4]{6} - \sqrt[4]{2})}{4} = \frac{\sqrt[4]{3} - \sqrt[4]{2}}{4} + \frac{\sqrt[4]{6} + \sqrt[4]{2}}{2} = \frac{2\sqrt[4]{6} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt[4]{6}}{2} = \frac{3}{2}\sqrt[4]{6} \Rightarrow abc = -\frac{9}{2} \text{ or } -4.5$
- $2^{x+1} + 2^{x+2} = 4^{19} - 4^{18} \Rightarrow 2^{x+1}(1+2) = 4^{18}(4-1) \Rightarrow 2^{x+1} = 4^{18} \Rightarrow 2^{x+1} = 2^{36} \Rightarrow x = 35$

GBML 1999

ROUND 3

- $\frac{(\sqrt[3]{5})(\sqrt[4]{25})}{(\sqrt[6]{0.2})} = \frac{(5^{1/3})(25^{1/4})}{(\frac{1}{5})^{1/6}} = \frac{5^{1/3} \cdot 5^{1/2}}{5^{-1/6}} = 5^{1/3 + 1/2 + 1/6} = 5$
- $\sqrt{44 + 16\sqrt{6}} = \sqrt{4(11 + 4\sqrt{6})} = 2 \cdot \sqrt{11 + 4\sqrt{6}}$;
 $(a\sqrt{b} + c\sqrt{d})^2 = 11 + 4\sqrt{6} \Rightarrow a^2b + c^2d = 11 \text{ and } dca\sqrt{bd} = 2\sqrt{6} \Rightarrow$
 $b = 2, d = 3, a' = 2, c' = 1 \Rightarrow \sqrt{44 + 16\sqrt{6}} = 4\sqrt{2} + 2\sqrt{3} \Rightarrow a \cdot b \cdot c \cdot d = 48$
- $\sqrt{5x-4} - \sqrt{x+8} = 2 \Rightarrow \sqrt{5x-4} = 2 + \sqrt{x+8} \Rightarrow 5x-4 = x+12 + 4\sqrt{x+8} \Rightarrow$
 $4x-16 = 4\sqrt{x+8} \Rightarrow x-4 = \sqrt{x+8} \Rightarrow x^2 - 8x + 16 = x + 8 \Rightarrow$
 $x^2 - 9x + 8 = 0 \Rightarrow (x-1)(x-8) = 0 \Rightarrow \text{Since } x=1 \text{ is extraneous, } x=8.$

GBML 2000

ROUND 3

- $\sqrt{7/6} - \sqrt{\frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{16}} + (3+3^{-1})^2 = \sqrt{\frac{64}{9}} - \sqrt{\frac{25}{9 \cdot 16}} + \left(\frac{10}{3}\right)^2 = \frac{8}{3} - \frac{5}{12} + \frac{100}{9} = \frac{96-15+400}{36} = \frac{481}{36}$
- $\frac{\sqrt[3]{4x^6}}{\sqrt[6]{x^4}} = \sqrt{3} \cdot \sqrt[3]{2} \rightarrow \frac{x^{1/2}}{x^{2/3}} = 3^{1/3} \cdot 2^{1/3} \rightarrow x^{1/6} = 3^{1/3} \cdot 2^{1/3} \rightarrow x = 3^3 \cdot 2^3 = 108$
- $\left(\frac{2^{-1}}{\sqrt[3]{2}-1}\right)\left(1-2^{1/6}\right)\left(1+2^{1/6}\right)-2^{-2} = \left(\frac{2^{-1}}{\sqrt[3]{2}-1}\right)\left(1-2^{1/3}\right)-\frac{1}{4} = \left(\frac{2^{-1}}{\sqrt[3]{2}-1}\right)\left(1-\sqrt[3]{2}\right)-\frac{1}{4} = -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4} = -\frac{3}{4}$

GBML 2001

ROUND 3

- $\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{1-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{3}}}\right)\left(\sqrt{6}-\frac{5}{\sqrt{6}}\right) = \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{3}-\sqrt{2}}\right)\left(\frac{6}{\sqrt{6}}-\frac{5}{\sqrt{6}}\right) = \left(\frac{\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{3}-\sqrt{2}}\right)\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}-\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{3} + \sqrt{2}$
- $\left(8^{2/3}\right)\left(16^{-1/2}\right) + (2^{1/4})^{3/2}(\sqrt{3})^{-2} = \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) + \left(\frac{9}{4}\right)^{3/2}\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) = \frac{1}{16} + \left(\frac{27}{8}\right)\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) = \frac{1}{16} + \frac{9}{8} = \frac{19}{16}$
- $\sqrt{4x+12} + 11 = x - \sqrt[4]{81x^2 + 486x + 729} \Rightarrow \sqrt{4(x+3)} + 11 = x - \sqrt[4]{81(x^2 + 6x + 9)} \Rightarrow$
 $2\sqrt{x+3} + 11 = x - 3\sqrt[4]{(x+3)^2} \Rightarrow 5\sqrt{x+3} = x - 11 \Rightarrow 25(x+3) = x^2 - 22x + 121 \Rightarrow$
 $x^2 - 47x + 46 = 0 \Rightarrow (x-46)(x-1) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 46. \text{ (} x=1 \text{ is an extraneous solution.)}$

G B M L 2006

ROUND 3

$$1. \frac{9^{1/2} - (9-1)^{-1/2}}{9^{-1/2}} = \frac{3^3 - 2^{-2}}{3^{-1}} = \frac{27 - \frac{1}{4}}{\frac{1}{3}} = \frac{12(27) - 3}{4} = \frac{321}{4} \rightarrow \underline{321 : 4}$$

2.

$$3 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{3}} - \frac{3 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}}{\sqrt{2}} - \sqrt{2} = \frac{3 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - 2}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{6} - 1}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{6} - 1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{3\sqrt{2} - \sqrt{3}}{6}$$

3.

Simplifying the left hand side of the equation we have $\frac{(a\sqrt{b} + b\sqrt{a})^2 - (a\sqrt{b} - b\sqrt{a})^2}{a^3b - b^3a} = \sqrt{ab}$

$$\rightarrow \cancel{2ab\sqrt{ab}} + \cancel{b^2a} - \cancel{2ab\sqrt{ab}} + \cancel{b^2a} = 4ab\sqrt{ab} = \sqrt{ab}(a^2b - b^3a)$$

$$\rightarrow 4ab = a^2b - b^3a = ab(a - b) \rightarrow a - b = 4 \rightarrow a = b + 4 \rightarrow (m, n) = (\underline{1}, \underline{4})$$

G B M L 2007

ROUND 3

$$1. \frac{3}{4}(18 - A) + \frac{2}{3}A = 5 \rightarrow 9(18 - A) - 8A = 60 \rightarrow 162 - 60 = 102 = 17A \rightarrow A = \underline{6}$$

$$2. \sqrt{\frac{25}{16} + 9} - 2^{-\frac{1}{2}} - \left(\frac{1 - \sqrt{2}}{2}\right)^2 = \sqrt{\frac{169}{16}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1 - 2\sqrt{2} + 2}{4} = \frac{13}{4} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} - \frac{3}{4} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} = \underline{\frac{10}{2}}$$

3. Let x denote the sum of the two radicals. Then:

$$x^2 = (\sqrt{19 + 6\sqrt{10}} + \sqrt{19 - 6\sqrt{10}})^2 = 19 + 6\sqrt{10} + 19 - 6\sqrt{10} + 2\sqrt{361 - 360} = 40 \rightarrow x = \underline{2\sqrt{10}}$$

G B M L 2008

ROUND 3

$$1. 6\sqrt{6} - (8 - 4\sqrt{6} + 3) = -11 + 10\sqrt{6} \rightarrow -11 + 10 + 6 = 5$$

$$2. \sqrt{\frac{25}{4} + \sqrt{8}} - \sqrt{\frac{25}{26} - 2\sqrt{2}} = \frac{5}{2} + 2\sqrt{2} - \frac{5}{6} - 2\sqrt{2} = \frac{5}{3}$$

$$3. \sqrt{x} - \frac{1}{3} = \sqrt{x-1} \rightarrow 3\sqrt{x-1} = 3\sqrt{x-1} \rightarrow 9x - 6\sqrt{x} + 1 = 9(x-1) \rightarrow x = \frac{25}{9}$$

G B M L 2009

ROUND 3

$$1. \sqrt{x^2 + x^2 + x^2 + x^2} = \sqrt{\frac{4}{9} + \frac{1}{4}} + \sqrt{\frac{1}{9}} \rightarrow +\sqrt{4x^2} = \sqrt{\frac{25}{36}} + \sqrt{\frac{64}{9}} \rightarrow 2|x| = \frac{5}{6} + \frac{8}{3} = \frac{21}{6} = \frac{7}{2}$$

$$\rightarrow x = \pm \frac{7}{4}$$

$$2. 9^x - 3^{x+1} - 3^x + 3 = 0 \rightarrow (3^x)^2 - 3^x \cdot 3 - 3^x + 3 = 0 \rightarrow (3^x)^2 - 4 \cdot 3^x \cdot 3 = (3^x - 1)(3^x - 3) = 0$$

$$\rightarrow x = \underline{0, 1}$$

$$3. \frac{\sqrt{17+12\sqrt{2}}}{\sqrt{3-2\sqrt{2}}} = \sqrt{\frac{17+12\sqrt{2}}{3-2\sqrt{2}}} \cdot \frac{3+2\sqrt{2}}{3+2\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{51+70\sqrt{2}+48}{1}} \rightarrow 99 + 70\sqrt{2} = (a^2 + b^2c) + 2ab\sqrt{c}$$

$$\rightarrow c = 2, ab = 35 \text{ and } a^2 + 2b^2 = 99 \rightarrow (a, b, c) = (7, 5, 2) \rightarrow abc = \underline{70}$$

G B M L 2010

ROUND 3

$$1. \sqrt{\frac{9^{x+1} \cdot 8^{2x}}{3^{4x-2} \cdot 4^{3x-3}}} = \sqrt{\frac{3^{2x+2} \cdot 2^{6x}}{3^{3x-2} \cdot 2^{6x-6}}} = \sqrt{3^4 \cdot 2^6} = 3^2 \cdot 2^3 = \underline{72}$$

$$2. \left(\sqrt[3]{1 - \left(\frac{7}{25}\right)^2}\right) \left(\frac{\sqrt[3]{576}}{2}\right) \left(\frac{\sqrt[3]{1}}{9} + \frac{1}{16}\right)$$

Note: (7, 24, 25) is a Pythagorean triple and $576 = 24^2$.

$$\left(\sqrt[3]{\frac{25^2 - 7^2}{25^3}}\right) \left(\frac{\sqrt[3]{24^2}}{2}\right) \left(\frac{\sqrt[3]{16+9}}{\sqrt[3]{16 \cdot 9}}\right) = \left(\frac{\sqrt[3]{24}}{\sqrt[3]{25}}\right) \left(\frac{\sqrt[3]{24}}{2}\right) \left(\frac{5}{12}\right) = \frac{24(5)}{5(24)} = \underline{1}$$

$$3. \sqrt{\frac{(\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{14})^2}{4}} \left(1 - \frac{\sqrt{63}}{12}\right) = \sqrt{\frac{16 + 4\sqrt{7}}{4}} \left(\frac{12 - 3\sqrt{7}}{12}\right) = \sqrt{(4 + \sqrt{7})} \left(\frac{4 - \sqrt{7}}{4}\right) = \sqrt{\frac{16 - 7}{4}} = \underline{\frac{3}{2}}$$

MM L 3/04

A) Find the exact value of x : $\sqrt{4 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{9}} = 2 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{x}{2}$

$$\sqrt{\frac{144 + 9 + 16}{36}} = \sqrt{\frac{169}{36}} = \frac{13}{6} = \frac{5}{2} + \frac{x}{6}, \quad \frac{13 - 15}{6} = \frac{x}{6}$$

$$\frac{x}{6} = -\frac{2}{6} = -\frac{1}{3}, \quad \boxed{x = -1}$$

B) Convert to simplified radical form $\frac{\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{3} + 1} + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{2}}$

$$\frac{(\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{2})(\sqrt{3} - 1)}{(\sqrt{3} + 1)(\sqrt{3} - 1)} + \frac{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{3}}{2} = \frac{3\sqrt{2} - 2\sqrt{6} + \sqrt{2} + 2\sqrt{6}}{2} =$$

$$\frac{4\sqrt{2}}{2} = \boxed{2\sqrt{2}}$$

C) Solve for x $8^{x+2} = 16^{x+2}$

I, $\frac{3(x+2)}{x} = \frac{4(x+2)}{4} \quad 3x + 6 = x(x+2), \quad 3x + 6 = x^2 + 2x,$

II, $x^2 - x - 6 = 0, \quad (x+2)(x-3) = 0, \quad x = -2, 3.$

III, $x^{\frac{x+2}{x}} = 8^{\frac{4}{x}}, \quad \frac{x+2}{x} = \frac{4}{x}, \quad \frac{x+2}{x} = \frac{4}{x}, \quad \boxed{x = -2 \text{ or } 3}$

MM L 3/05

Round Two:

A. $\sqrt{\frac{144 + 64 + 81}{144}} = \frac{12 + 8 + 3x}{12}$ so $\sqrt{289} = 17 = 20 = 3x$ so $x = -1.$

B. $1 + 4\sqrt{3} + 12 + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{9} - 3\sqrt{3} + \frac{7\sqrt{3}}{9} =$

$13 + \frac{36 + 2 - 27 + 7}{9}\sqrt{3} = 13 + 2\sqrt{3}$

C. $\frac{3^{n+4}}{3^{n+6}} + \frac{3^{n+2}}{3^{n+6}} = \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{3^4} = \frac{3^2 + 1}{3^4} = \frac{10}{81}$

MM L 3/06

Round Two:

A. $\sqrt{2^9} + \sqrt{2^8} = 2^{4.5} + 2^4 = 16 + 2^{3.5} = 16 + 8\sqrt{2}$ so $(a, b) = (16, 8).$

B. Replace $2\sqrt{2}$ with $\sqrt{8}$. Note $\frac{1}{\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{x}} = \frac{\sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{x}}{(\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{x})(\sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{x})} = \frac{\sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{x}}{x+1 - x} = \sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{x}$ so

$2(\sqrt{8} - \sqrt{7} + \sqrt{7} - \sqrt{6} + \sqrt{6} - \sqrt{5} + \dots + \sqrt{3} - \sqrt{2}) = 2(\sqrt{8} - \sqrt{2}) = 2(2\sqrt{2} - \sqrt{2})$

C. $2\sqrt{6x} / 2\sqrt{15} = 2\sqrt{3(x+4)x} / 2\sqrt{3} = \sqrt{3x^2 + 12x}$ etc.

MM L 3/07

Round 2

A) Trial and error $\rightarrow (a, b, c, d) = (1, -2, -4, 3) \rightarrow (1)^2 - (-4)^2 = 1 + 64 = 65$

B) $x - y = 4$ and $2^{4x-2y} = 2^{24x-6y} \rightarrow 2^{20x-4y} = 1 \rightarrow 20x - 4y = 0$ or $5x - y = 0$
Solving simultaneously, $4x = -4 \rightarrow \underline{x = -1}$. Substituting back, $y = 5.$

C) The radicand must represent a perfect square, call it $(a + b\sqrt{3})^2 = a^2 + 3b^2 + 2ab\sqrt{3}$
For integer values of a and b , $a^2 + 3b^2$ must represent an integer and $2ab\sqrt{3}$ a multiple of $\sqrt{3}$.
Thus, $a^2 + 3b^2 = 48$ and $ab = -12$. Clearly, a and b have opposite signs and checking out factors of 12 in the first equation produces either $(6, -2) \rightarrow \underline{6 - 2\sqrt{3}}$ which is positive or

$(-6, 2) \rightarrow -6 + 2\sqrt{3}$ which is a negative value and must be rejected. Thus, $\underline{a = 6, b = -2, c = 3}$

MM L 3/08

Round 2

A) Suppose $N = 4^x$.
 $N = 2(64)^{-2/3} = 2(4)^{-2} = 2^{-2} = 4^2 = 2^{-2} \rightarrow 2y = -3 \rightarrow y = -3/2$

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

$= \left(\sqrt{\frac{(x^2 + 1)^2}{x^2}} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{3x}{x^2 + 1} \right) = \frac{x^2 + 1}{|x|} \cdot \frac{3x}{x^2 + 1} = \frac{3x}{|x|} = \pm 3$

C) In order to extract the square roots in both the numerator and the denominator, the radicands must be perfect squares. Therefore, let $49 - 8\sqrt{3} = (A + B\sqrt{3})^2$ and $21 + 12\sqrt{3} = (C + D\sqrt{3})^2$.
Multiplying out and equating rational and irrational parts we have,

$\begin{cases} A^2 + 3B^2 = 49 \\ 4A, 4B = (-1, 4) \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} A^2 + 3B^2 = 49 \\ CD = 6 \end{cases} \rightarrow (A, B) = (-1, 4) \text{ and } (C, D) = (3, 2)$

Thus, $\frac{\sqrt{49 - 8\sqrt{3}}}{\sqrt{21 + 12\sqrt{3}}} = \frac{-1 + 4\sqrt{3}}{3 + 2\sqrt{3}} \cdot \frac{3 - 2\sqrt{3}}{3 - 2\sqrt{3}} = \frac{-3 + 2\sqrt{3} + 12\sqrt{3} - 24}{3 - 12} = \frac{27 - 14\sqrt{3}}{-9} \rightarrow \underline{(27, 14)}$