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MATH 100

Fall 2021

HW 13: Due 11/15

*“If at first you don’t succeed, find out if the loser gets anything.”*

*– William Lyon Phelps*

**Problem 1.** (10pt) Compute the following, being sure to show all your work and simplifying as much as possible:

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

**Solution.**

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{3}{x+1} - \frac{2}{x-3} &= \frac{3(x-3) - 2(x+1)}{(x+1)(x-3)} \\ &= \frac{3x - 9 - 2x - 2}{(x+1)(x-3)} \\ &= \frac{x - 11}{(x+1)(x-3)}\end{aligned}$$

**Problem 2.** (10pt) Compute the following, being sure to show all your work and simplifying as much as possible:

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

**Solution.**

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{x-1} + \frac{3}{x^2 + 3x - 4} &= \frac{1}{x-1} + \frac{3}{(x-1)(x+4)} \\ &= \frac{1(x+4)}{(x-1)(x+4)} + \frac{3}{(x-1)(x+4)} \\ &= \frac{x+4+3}{(x-1)(x+4)} \\ &= \frac{x+7}{(x-1)(x+4)}\end{aligned}$$

**Problem 3.** (10pt) Compute the following, being sure to show all your work and simplifying as much as possible:

$$\frac{x}{x-5} + \frac{x+1}{x+2}$$

**Solution.**

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{x}{x-5} + \frac{x+1}{x+2} &= \frac{x(x+2)}{(x-5)(x+2)} + \frac{(x+1)(x-5)}{(x-5)(x+2)} \\ &= \frac{x(x+2) + (x+1)(x-5)}{(x-5)(x+2)} \\ &= \frac{(x^2 + 2x) + (x^2 - 5x + x - 5)}{(x-5)(x+2)} \\ &= \frac{2x^2 - 2x - 5}{(x-5)(x+2)}\end{aligned}$$

**Problem 4.** (10pt) Compute the following, being sure to show all your work and simplifying as much as possible:

$$\frac{x-2}{x^2+10x+16} - \frac{x}{x^2+7x-8}$$

**Solution.**

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{x-2}{x^2+10x+16} - \frac{x}{x^2+7x-8} &= \frac{x-2}{(x+2)(x+8)} - \frac{x}{(x+8)(x-1)} \\&= \frac{(x-2)(x-1)}{(x+2)(x+8)(x-1)} - \frac{x(x+2)}{(x+8)(x-1)(x+2)} \\&= \frac{(x-2)(x-1) - x(x+2)}{(x+2)(x+8)(x-1)} \\&= \frac{(x^2 - x - 2x + 2) + (-x^2 - 2x)}{(x+2)(x+8)(x-1)} \\&= \frac{-5x + 2}{(x+2)(x+8)(x-1)}\end{aligned}$$

**Problem 5.** (10pt) Compute the following, being sure to show all your work and simplifying as much as possible:

$$\frac{8}{x+1} \cdot \frac{x^2-1}{4x+4}$$

**Solution.**

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{8}{x+1} \cdot \frac{x^2-1}{4x+4} &= \frac{8}{x+1} \cdot \frac{(x-1)(x+1)}{4(x+1)} \\ &= \frac{\cancel{2}^2}{\cancel{x+1}^1} \cdot \frac{(x-1)\cancel{(x+1)}}{\cancel{4}^1(x+1)} \\ &= \frac{2(x-1)}{x+1}\end{aligned}$$

**Problem 6.** (10pt) Compute the following, being sure to show all your work and simplifying as much as possible:

$$\frac{x+6}{x^2-2x-24} \cdot \frac{x^2+5x+4}{2x+12}$$

**Solution.**

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{x+6}{x^2-2x-24} \cdot \frac{x^2+5x+4}{2x+12} &= \frac{x+6}{(x-6)(x+4)} \cdot \frac{(x+1)(x+4)}{2(x+6)} \\ &= \frac{\cancel{x+6}}{(x-6)\cancel{(x+4)}} \cdot \frac{(x+1)\cancel{(x+4)}}{2\cancel{(x+6)}} \\ &= \frac{x+1}{2(x-6)} \end{aligned}$$

**Problem 7.** (10pt) Compute the following, being sure to show all your work and simplifying as much as possible:

$$\frac{\frac{x+1}{x}}{\frac{x^2-1}{x^2+9x}}$$

**Solution.**

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\frac{x+1}{x}}{\frac{x^2-1}{x^2+9x}} &= \frac{x+1}{x} \cdot \frac{x^2+9x}{x^2-1} \\ &= \frac{x+1}{x} \cdot \frac{x(x+9)}{(x-1)(x+1)} \\ &= \frac{\cancel{x+1}}{\cancel{x}} \cdot \frac{\cancel{x}(x+9)}{(x-1)\cancel{(x+1)}} \\ &= \frac{x+9}{x-1}\end{aligned}$$

**Problem 8.** (10pt) Compute the following, being sure to show all your work and simplifying as much as possible:

$$\frac{\frac{x^2 + x - 2}{x^2 + 8x + 15}}{\frac{x^2 - 2x - 8}{x^2 - 9}}$$

**Solution.**

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\frac{x^2 + x - 2}{x^2 + 8x + 15}}{\frac{x^2 - 2x - 8}{x^2 - 9}} &= \frac{x^2 + x - 2}{x^2 + 8x + 15} \cdot \frac{x^2 - 9}{x^2 - 2x - 8} \\ &= \frac{(x + 2)(x - 1)}{(x + 3)(x + 5)} \cdot \frac{(x - 3)(x + 3)}{(x - 4)(x + 2)} \\ &= \frac{\cancel{(x + 2)}(x - 1)}{\cancel{(x + 3)}(x + 5)} \cdot \frac{(x - 3)\cancel{(x + 3)}}{(x - 4)\cancel{(x + 2)}} \\ &= \frac{(x - 1)(x - 3)}{(x + 5)(x - 4)} \end{aligned}$$