

Solutions

MATH 122

The following sets of three statements contain two truths and a lie. Your task is to determine which are truthful statements and which is the lie. Provide justification for your conjectures.

Radicals

F (A) $\sqrt{x^2 + y^2} = \sqrt{x^2} + \sqrt{y^2} = x + y$

T (B) $\sqrt{\frac{36}{x^2}} = \frac{\sqrt{36}}{\sqrt{x^2}} = \frac{6}{x}$

T (C) $\sqrt{a^2 b^2 c^4 d^8} = abc^2 d^4$

Can NOT
split radicals
over addition
or subtraction!

Sidework

Simplification

T (A) $\frac{x}{x(x-4)} = \frac{1}{x-4}$

F (B) $\frac{y}{a+b} = \frac{y}{a} + \frac{y}{b} \quad \frac{3}{1+2} \neq \frac{3}{1} + \frac{3}{2}$

T (C) $\frac{x+y}{b} = \frac{x}{b} + \frac{y}{b}$

Exponents

T (A) $x^5 x^2 = x^7$ Add exponents

T (B) $(a^2)^3 = a^6$ Multiply exponents

F (C) $\frac{x^6 y^4}{x^3 y} = x^3 y^3$ SUBTRACT exponents
 $\hookrightarrow x^3 y^3$

Expanding Binomials

F (A) $(x+2y)^2 = x^2 + 4y^2$ FOIL

T (B) $(2a+3b)^2 = 4a^2 + 12ab + 9b^2$

T (C) $(-4x+1)^2 = 16x^2 - 8x + 1$

$$\begin{aligned} (x+2y)^2 &= (x+2y)(x+2y) \\ &= x^2 + 4xy + 4y^2 \end{aligned}$$

In order to be successful in throughout this course, your factoring skills need to be sharp. Work on factoring the following expressions in order to improve your skills.

1. $4x + 8y + 16z$

$$4(x + 2y + 4z)$$

2. $3xy^2 + 6x^3y - 15x^2$

$$3x(y^2 + 2x^2y - 5x)$$

3. $\frac{x^2 + x}{x}$

$$x + 1$$

4. $x^2 - 4$

$$(x + 2)(x - 2)$$

5. $x^2 + 5x + 6$

$$(x + 3)(x + 2)$$

6. $x^2 - 2x - 8$

$$(x - 4)(x + 2)$$

7. $2x^2 - 5x - 3$

$$(2x + 1)(x - 3)$$

8. $\frac{x^2 - 16}{2x^2 + 7x - 4}$

$$\frac{(x - 4)(x + 4)}{(2x - 1)(x + 4)}$$

$$\frac{x - 4}{2x - 1}$$