

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Algebra II  
Quiz 4

**Problem 1.** Simplify and factor completely.

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{x^5 - x^4} - \sqrt{16x - 16} \\ &= \sqrt{x^4(x - 1)} - \sqrt{16(x - 1)} \\ &= x^2\sqrt{x - 1} - 4\sqrt{x - 1} \\ &= (x^2 - 4)\sqrt{x - 1} \\ &= (x + 2)(x - 2)\sqrt{x - 1} \end{aligned}$$

**Problem 2.** Simplify.

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt[3]{y^4} \sqrt[3]{16y^5} \\ &= \sqrt[3]{y^4 16y^5} \\ &= \sqrt[3]{16y^4 y^5} \\ &= \sqrt[3]{16y^9} \\ &= \sqrt[3]{2^4 (y^3)^3} \\ &= \sqrt[3]{2 * 2^3 (y^3)^3} \\ &= 2y^3 \sqrt[3]{2} \end{aligned}$$

**Problem 3.** First write as one single radical. Then simplify if possible.

$$\begin{aligned} & (x^3)^{\frac{1}{2}} (xy^2)^{\frac{1}{3}} (x^2y^3)^{\frac{1}{6}} \\ &= (x^3)^{\frac{1}{2} * \frac{2}{3}} (xy^2)^{\frac{1}{3} * \frac{2}{2}} (x^2y^3)^{\frac{1}{6}} \\ &= (x^3)^{\frac{2}{3}} (xy^2)^{\frac{2}{6}} (x^2y^3)^{\frac{1}{6}} \\ &= \sqrt[6]{(x^3)^3} \sqrt[6]{(xy^2)^2} \sqrt[6]{(x^2y^3)^1} \\ &= \sqrt[6]{x^9} \sqrt[6]{x^2y^4} \sqrt[6]{x^2y^3} \\ &= \sqrt[6]{x^9 x^2 y^4 x^2 y^3} \\ &= \sqrt[6]{x^{13} y^7} \text{ (this is written as one radical)} \\ &= \sqrt[6]{x(x^2)^6 y y^6} \\ &= x^2 y \sqrt[6]{xy} \end{aligned}$$

Note that I did not say what flavor of radical to use. You could also have chosen to use, say, a 12<sup>th</sup> root, giving you

$$\begin{aligned} &= (x^3)^{\frac{1}{2} * \frac{6}{6}} (xy^2)^{\frac{1}{3} * \frac{4}{4}} (x^2y^3)^{\frac{1}{6} * \frac{2}{2}} \\ &= (x^3)^{\frac{6}{12}} (xy^2)^{\frac{4}{12}} (x^2y^3)^{\frac{2}{12}} \\ &= \sqrt[12]{(x^3)^6} \sqrt[12]{(xy^2)^4} \sqrt[12]{(x^2y^3)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sqrt[12]{x^{18}} \sqrt[12]{x^4 y^8} \sqrt[12]{x^4 y^6} \\
&= \sqrt[12]{x^{18} x^4 y^8 x^4 y^6} \\
&= \sqrt[12]{x^{26} y^{14}} \\
&= \sqrt[12]{x^{12} x^{12} x^2 y^{12} y^2} \\
&= x^2 y \sqrt[12]{x^2 y^2}
\end{aligned}$$

which is an acceptable answer. But notice that we can further reduce this since

$$x^2 y \sqrt[12]{x^2 y^2} = x^2 y (x^2 y^2)^{\frac{1}{12}} = x^2 y ((xy)^2)^{\frac{1}{12}} = x^2 y (xy)^{\frac{2}{12}} = x^2 y (xy)^{\frac{1}{6}} = x^2 y \sqrt[6]{xy}$$

which is the first answer above.

**Problem 4.** Compute. For full credit write your answer in reduced form.

$$\begin{aligned}
&\left(\frac{1}{2} + i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)^2 \\
&= \left(\frac{1}{2} + i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) \left(\frac{1}{2} + i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) \\
&= \frac{1}{4} + i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} + i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} + i^2 \frac{3}{4} \\
&= \frac{1}{4} + i\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}\right) - \frac{3}{4} \\
&= \frac{1}{4} - \frac{3}{4} + i\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}\right) \\
&= -\frac{2}{4} + i\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}\right) \\
&= -\frac{1}{2} + i\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}\right) \\
&= -\frac{1}{2} + i\left(\frac{\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{3}}{4}\right) \\
&= -\frac{1}{2} + i\left(\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{4}\right) \\
&= -\frac{1}{2} + i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

**Problem 5.** Write in the form  $a + ib$ . Be sure to show your work!

$$\frac{1}{2 - 3i}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{1}{(2-3i)} \frac{(2+3i)}{(2+3i)} \\
&= \frac{(2+3i)}{(2-3i)(2+3i)} \\
&= \frac{(2+3i)}{4+6i-6i-9i^2} \\
&= \frac{(2+3i)}{4-9(-1)} \\
&= \frac{(2+3i)}{4+9} \\
&= \frac{(2+3i)}{13} \\
&= \frac{2}{13} + \frac{3}{13}i
\end{aligned}$$

**Problem 6.** Write in the form  $a + ib$ . Be sure to show your work!

$$\begin{aligned}
&\frac{\sqrt{2}-3i}{2-i\sqrt{3}} \\
&= \frac{(\sqrt{2}-3i)(2+i\sqrt{3})}{(2-i\sqrt{3})(2+i\sqrt{3})} \\
&= \frac{(\sqrt{2}-3i)(2+i\sqrt{3})}{4+2i\sqrt{3}-2i\sqrt{3}-3i^2} \\
&= \frac{(\sqrt{2}-3i)(2+i\sqrt{3})}{4-3(-1)} \\
&= \frac{(\sqrt{2}-3i)(2+i\sqrt{3})}{4+3} \\
&= \frac{(\sqrt{2}-3i)(2+i\sqrt{3})}{7} \\
&= \frac{2\sqrt{2}+i\sqrt{2}\sqrt{3}-6i-3i^2\sqrt{3}}{7} \\
&= \frac{2\sqrt{2}+i\sqrt{6}-6i-3(-1)\sqrt{3}}{7} \\
&= \frac{2\sqrt{2}+i\sqrt{6}-6i+3\sqrt{3}}{7} \\
&= \frac{2\sqrt{2}+3\sqrt{3}+i\sqrt{6}-6i}{7} \\
&= \frac{(2\sqrt{2}+3\sqrt{3})+i(\sqrt{6}-6)}{7} \\
&= \left( \frac{2\sqrt{2}+3\sqrt{3}}{7} \right) + i \left( \frac{\sqrt{6}-6}{7} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

**Problem 7.** Write in the form  $a + ib$ . Be sure to show your work!

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{x + iy}{u + iv} \\
 &= \frac{(x + iy)(u - iv)}{(u + iv)(u - iv)} \\
 &= \frac{xu - ixv + iyu - i^2 yv}{u^2 - iuv + iuv - i^2 v^2} \\
 &= \frac{xu - ixv + iyu - (-1)yv}{u^2 - (-1)v^2} \\
 &= \frac{xu - ixv + iyu + yv}{u^2 + v^2} \\
 &= \frac{xu + yv + iyu - ixv}{u^2 + v^2} \\
 &= \frac{(xu + yv) + i(yu - xv)}{u^2 + v^2} \\
 &= \left( \frac{xu + yv}{u^2 + v^2} \right) + i \left( \frac{yu - xv}{u^2 + v^2} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

**Extra Credit.** Compute

$$\sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \dots}}}$$

Let  $x = \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \dots}}}$  and notice that we must have  $0 < x$  since at every level, this is the square root of a positive number and therefore positive. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &= \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \dots}}} \\
 \implies x^2 &= 2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \dots}}}
 \end{aligned}$$

But we can substitute  $x = \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \dots}}}$  to give us

$$x^2 = 2 + \left( \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \dots}}} \right)$$

$$x^2 = 2 + x$$

$$\iff x^2 - x - 2 = 0$$

$$\iff (x + 1)(x - 2) = 0$$

which is true whenever  $x = -1$  or when  $x = 2$ . But since we must have  $0 < x$ , it must be the case that  $x = 2$ . We'll check our work by letting  $x = 2$  in  $x = \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \dots}}}$  so that

$$2 = \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \dots}}}$$

$$\implies 2^2 = 2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \dots}}}$$

$$\iff 4 = 2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \dots}}}$$

$$\iff 4 - 2 = 2 - 2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \dots}}}$$

$$\iff 2 = 0 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \dots}}}$$

$$\iff 2 = \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \dots}}}$$

which is what we want. Therefore,

$$\sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \sqrt{2 + \dots}}} = 2.$$