

Name and section: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor's name: \_\_\_\_\_

- **Please do not open exam until instructed to begin.**
- This exam is to be completed in the allotted time period of 50 minutes.
- There are 17 problems which appear on the fronts and backs of the pages of this exam.
- You may earn a total of 96 points.
- Read each question carefully.
- Credit may not be given without sufficient supporting work.
- Simplify answers when possible.
- The use of cell phones, books, or notes are not permitted while taking this exam.
- Approved calculators are allowed.

1. Factor completely.

$$18wz^2 - 27w^2z$$

2. Factor completely.

$$x^2 + 6x - 27$$

3. Factor completely.

$$9x^2 - 13x + 4$$

4. Factor completely.

$$49a^2 - 64$$

5. Factor completely.

$$25x^3y - 30x^2y + 9xy$$

6. The height in feet that a model rocket attains is given by  $h(t) = -5t^2 + 13t + 6$  where  $t$  is the time measured in seconds. How many seconds will it take until the rocket finally reaches the ground? (Hint: ground level is  $h = 0$ )

7. Simplify.

$$\frac{x^2 + 10x + 21}{2x^2 + 11x - 21}$$

8. Simplify.

$$\frac{2x^2 - 11x + 12}{16 - x^2}$$

9. Multiply.

$$\frac{2x-10}{x-4} \times \frac{x^2+5x+4}{x^2-4x-5}$$

10. Divide.

$$\frac{x^2-8x+15}{x^2+10x-24} \div \frac{x^2-3x-10}{x^2+14x+24}$$

11. Subtract.

$$\frac{7x}{x^2-36} - \frac{6}{x+6}$$

12. Add.

$$\frac{7}{x^2 + 5x + 6} + \frac{4}{x^2 + 10x + 21}$$

13. Simplify.

$$\frac{\frac{14}{x^2 - 49}}{\frac{4}{x+7} + \frac{4}{x-7}}$$

14. Solve for  $x$ .

$$\frac{4x}{x^2 - 4} = \frac{5}{x + 2} - \frac{2}{x - 2}$$

15. Solve for  $a$ .

$$\frac{a+4}{7a-2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

16. A 5-gallon can of paint covers 250 square feet. How many gallons of paint do you need to cover 400 square feet?
17. On a map the distance between two mountains is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The actual distance is 148 miles. Russ is camped at a location that on the map is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch from the base of the mountain. How many miles is he from the base of the mountain? Round to the nearest tenth.

## Solutions

1. Factor completely.

$$18wz^2 - 27w^2z$$

$$9wz$$

2 pts to here

$$9wz(2z - 3w)$$

4 pts to here

Award 3 points if the correct GCF is found,  
but there is a minor mistake in factoring.

2. Factor completely.

$$x^2 + 6x - 27$$

$$(x + 9)(x - 3)$$

4 pts

Reversed signs award 2 pts for the problem

One correct factor award 1 pt for the problem

3. Factor completely.

$$9x^2 - 13x + 4$$

$$9x^2 - 9x - 4x + 4$$

1 pt to here

$$9x(x - 1) - 4(x - 1)$$

2 pt to here

$$(9x - 4)(x - 1)$$

4 pts

Reversed signs award 3 pts for the problem

One correct factor award 2 pt for the problem

4. Factor completely.

$$49a^2 - 64$$

$$(7a - 8)(7a + 8)$$

4 pts

Incorrect signs, numbers are correct 3 pts

One correct factor award 2 pts

5. Factor completely.

$$25x^3y - 30x^2y + 9xy$$

$$xy(25x^2 - 30x + 9)$$

2 pts to here

$$xy(5x - 3)^2$$

4 pts

Incorrect sign, numbers are correct

3 pts

6. The height in feet that a model rocket attains is given by  $h(t) = -5t^2 + 13t + 6$  where  $t$  is the time measured in seconds. How many seconds will it take until the rocket finally reaches the ground? (Hint: ground level is  $h = 0$ )

$0 = -5t^2 + 13t + 6$	2 pts to here
$0 = -(5t + 2)(t - 3)$	4 pts to here
$t - 3 = 0$	
$5t + 2 = 0$	6 pts to here
$t = -2/5$ second	8 pts given both answers
$t = 3$ seconds	10 pts if student shows
that 3 seconds is only answer	
(9 points if units are left off)	

7. Simplify.

$$\frac{x^2 + 10x + 21}{2x^2 + 11x - 21}$$

Partial factoring of only the numerator	1 pt
Partial factoring of only the denominator	2 pts to here
$\frac{(x+7)(x+3)}{(2x-3)(x+7)}$	3 pts to here
$\frac{x+3}{2x-3}$	4 pts to here

8. Simplify.

$$\frac{2x^2 - 11x + 12}{16 - x^2}$$

Partial factoring of only denominator or numerator	1 pt
$\frac{(x-4)(2x-3)}{(4-x)(4+x)}$	2 pts to here
$\frac{-(4-x)(2x-3)}{(4-x)(4+x)}$	3 pts to here
$-\frac{2x-3}{4+x}$	4 pts to here

9. Multiply.

$$\frac{2x - 10}{x - 4} \times \frac{x^2 + 5x + 4}{x^2 - 4x - 5}$$

Factoring of equivalent of one rational expression	2 pt
$\frac{2(x-5)}{x-4} \times \frac{(x+4)(x+1)}{(x-5)(x+1)}$	4 pts to here
$\frac{2(x+4)}{x-4}$	6 pts to here

10. Divide.

$$\frac{x^2 - 8x + 15}{x^2 + 10x - 24} \div \frac{x^2 - 3x - 10}{x^2 + 14x + 24}$$

Factoring of equivalent of one rational expression	2 pt
$\frac{(x-3)(x-5)}{(x+12)(x-2)} \times \frac{(x+12)(x+2)}{(x-5)(x+2)}$	3 pts to here
$\frac{x-3}{x-2}$	6 pts to here

11. Subtract.

$$\frac{7x}{x^2 - 36} - \frac{6}{x + 6}$$



Factoring of equivalent of one rational expression	2 pt
$\frac{7x}{(x+6)(x-6)} - \frac{6(x-6)}{(x+6)(x-6)}$	3 pts to here
$\frac{7x-6x+36}{(x+6)(x-6)}$	5 pts to here
(4 pts if $7x - 6x - 36$ )	
$\frac{x+36}{(x+6)(x-6)}$	6 pts to here
5 pts if $\frac{x-36}{(x+6)(x-6)}$	

12. Add.

$$\frac{7}{x^2 + 5x + 6} + \frac{4}{x^2 + 10x + 21}$$

$\frac{7}{(x+3)(x+2)} + \frac{4}{(x+7)(x+3)}$	2 pts to here
$\frac{7(x+7)}{(x+3)(x+2)(x+7)} + \frac{4(x+2)}{(x+7)(x+3)(x+2)}$	3 pts to here
$\frac{7x+49+4x+8}{(x+3)(x+2)(x+7)}$	5 pts to here
$\frac{11x+57}{(x+3)(x+2)(x+7)}$	6 pts to here

13. Simplify.

$$\frac{\frac{14}{x^2-49}}{\frac{4}{x+7} + \frac{4}{x-7}}$$

Method 1	
$\frac{\frac{14}{x^2-49}}{\frac{4(x-7)}{(x+7)(x-7)}} + \frac{4(x+7)}{(x+7)(x-7)}$	2 pts to here
$\frac{\frac{14}{x^2-49}}{\frac{8x}{(x+7)(x-7)}}$	3 pts to here
$\frac{14}{(x+7)(x-7)} \times \frac{(x+7)(x-7)}{8x}$	4 pts to here
$\frac{14}{8x}$	5 pts to here
$\frac{7}{4x}$	6 pts to here
Method 2	
$\frac{(x+7)(x-7)}{(x+7)(x-7)} \times \frac{\frac{14}{x^2-49}}{\frac{4}{x+7} + \frac{4}{x-7}}$	2 pts to here
$\frac{14}{4(x-7)+4(x+7)}$	4 pts to here
$\frac{14}{8x}$	5 pts to here
$\frac{7}{4x}$	6 pts to here

14. Solve for  $x$ .

$$\frac{4x}{x^2 - 4} = \frac{5}{x + 2} - \frac{2}{x - 2}$$

$(x+2)(x-2)\frac{4x}{(x+2)(x-2)} = \frac{(x+2)(x-2)5}{x+2} - \frac{(x+2)(x-2)2}{x-2}$	2 pts to here
$4x = 5(x-2) - 2(x+2)$	3 pts to here
$4x = 5x - 10 - 2x - 4$	4 pts to here
$4x = 3x - 14$	5 pts to here
$x = -14$	6 pts to here

15. Solve for
- $a$
- .

$$\frac{a+4}{7a-2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$2(a+4) = 7a-2$	3 pts to here
$2a+8 = 7a-2$	4 pts to here
$5a = 10$	5 pts to here
$a = 2$	6 pts to here

16. A 5-gallon can of paint covers 250 square feet. How many gallons of paint do you need to cover 400 square feet?

$\frac{5}{250} = \frac{x}{400}$	4 pts to here
$5 \cdot 400 = 250x$	6 pts to here
$x = 8 \text{ gallons}$	8 pts to here

17. On a map the distance between two mountains is
- $7\frac{1}{2}$
- inches. The actual distance is 148 miles. Russ is camped at a location that on the map is
- $\frac{3}{4}$
- inch from the base of the mountain. How many miles is he from the base of the mountain? Round to the nearest tenth.

$\frac{7.5 \text{ in}}{148 \text{ miles}} = \frac{.75 \text{ in}}{x \text{ miles}}$	4 pts to here
$7.5x = (.75)(148)$	6 pts to here
$x = 14.8$	7 pts to here
$x = 14.8 \text{ miles}$	8 pts to here