

Exam Review Part 2a - Rational Expressions

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SOLUTIONS

Section 1: Simplifying Rational Expressions

1) Simplify each expression. State all restrictions on x .

a) $\frac{x-7}{x^2-4x-21}$

$$= \frac{x-7}{(x-7)(x+3)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{x+3} ; x \neq 7, -3$$

b) $\frac{2x^2+7x-15}{2x^2+3x-9}$

$$= \frac{(2x-3)(x+5)}{(2x-3)(x+3)}$$

$$= \frac{x+5}{x+3} ; x \neq -3, \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\cancel{2x} \cancel{x}^5 \\ \cancel{1x} \cancel{x}^3 \\ -3$$

$$\cancel{2x} \cancel{x}^3 \\ \cancel{1x} \cancel{x}^3 \\ -3$$

2) Simplify and state any restrictions.

a) $\frac{3}{5} \frac{36x^4}{x^2} \times \frac{16}{12x}$

$$= \frac{48x^7}{x^3}$$

$$= 48x^4 ; x \neq 0$$

b) $\frac{3x}{32y} \div \frac{27x^2}{96y}$

$$= \frac{1}{\cancel{32y}} \times \frac{\cancel{3} \cancel{96y}}{\cancel{27} \cancel{x^2}}$$

$$= \frac{3xy}{9x^2y}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3x} ; x \neq 0, y \neq 0$$

3) Simplify and state any restrictions

a) $\frac{4}{x-6} \times \frac{x-6}{8}$

$$= 4 ; x \neq 6$$

b) $\frac{x-8}{x+2} \times \frac{x+2}{x-6}$

$$= \frac{x-8}{x-6} ; x \neq -2, 6$$

c) $\frac{4x-20}{x^2+6x} \times \frac{3x^2}{3x-15}$

$$= \frac{4(x-5)(x^2)}{x(x+6)(x)(x-5)}$$

d) $\frac{x^2+3x+2}{x^2-1} \times \frac{x-1}{x^2-2x-8}$

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

$$= \frac{1}{x-4} ; x \neq -2, -1, 1, 4$$

$$= \frac{4x^2}{x(x+6)}$$

$$= \frac{4x}{x+6} ; x \neq -6, 0, 5$$

4) Simplify and state any restrictions

a) $\frac{x+1}{x} \div \frac{x+1}{2x}$

$$= \frac{x+1}{x} \times \frac{2x}{x+1}$$

$$\therefore 2 ; x \neq -1, 0$$

c) $\frac{6x}{8x-72} \div \frac{9x}{2x-18}$

$$= \frac{6x}{8(x-9)} \times \frac{2(x-9)}{9x}$$

$$= \frac{12x}{72x}$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} ; x \neq 0, 9$$

b) $\frac{x+12}{x+10} \div \frac{x+12}{x-5}$

$$= \frac{x+12}{x+10} \times \frac{x-5}{x+12}$$

$$= \frac{x-5}{x+10} ; x = -12, -10, 5$$

d) $\frac{x^2-7x+10}{x^2-4} \div \frac{x^2-4x-5}{3x+6}$

$$= \frac{(x-2)(x-5)}{(x-2)(x+2)} \times \frac{3(x+2)}{(x-5)(x+1)}$$

$$= \frac{3}{x+1} ; x \neq -2, -1, 2, 5$$

5) Simplify and state any restrictions.

a) $\frac{5}{7x} - \frac{3}{4x} x^7$

b) $\frac{4}{ab} + \frac{9}{2b} x^a$

$$= \frac{20}{28x} - \frac{21}{28x}$$

$$= \frac{8}{2ab} + \frac{9a}{2ab}$$

$$= \frac{-1}{28x} ; x \neq 0$$

$$= \frac{8+9a}{2ab} ; a \neq 0, b \neq 0$$

c) $\frac{2}{x-3} - \frac{5}{x+3} \frac{(x-3)}{(x+3)}$

$$= \frac{2(x+3) - 5(x-3)}{(x-3)(x+3)}$$

$$= \frac{-3x+21}{(x-3)(x+3)}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{-3(x-7)}{(x-3)(x+3)} ; x \neq -3, 3$$

d) $\frac{7}{x+4} + \frac{11}{x-5} \frac{(x+4)}{(x-5)}$

$$= \frac{7(x-5) + 11(x+4)}{(x+4)(x-5)}$$

$$= \frac{7x-35 + 11x+44}{(x+4)(x-5)}$$

$$= \frac{18x+9}{(x+4)(x-5)}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{9(2x+1)}{(x+4)(x-5)} ; x \neq -4, 5$$

6) Simplify and state any restrictions

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a)} & \frac{4x}{x^2-9x+18} + \frac{2x-1}{x-6} \\ &= \frac{4x}{(x-3)(x-6)} + \frac{2x-1}{x-6} \stackrel{(x-3)}{\sim} \\ &= \frac{4x+2x^2-6x-2x+3}{(x-3)(x-6)} \\ &= \frac{2x^2-3x+3}{(x-3)(x-6)} ; x \neq 3, 6 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b)} & \frac{2x}{x-2} - \frac{3}{x^2-4} \\ &= \frac{2x}{x-2} - \frac{3}{(x-2)(x+2)} \\ &= \frac{2x^2+4x-3}{(x-2)(x+2)} ; x \neq -2, 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c)} & \frac{3x+9}{x^2+5x+6} - \frac{2x-2}{x^2+x-2} \\ &= \frac{3(x+3)}{(x+2)(x+3)} - \frac{2(x-1)}{(x+2)(x-1)} \\ &= \frac{3}{x+2} - \frac{2}{x-2} \\ &= \frac{1}{x+2} ; x \neq -3, -2, 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{d)} & \frac{4x^2-20x}{x^2+2x-35} + \frac{3x-6}{x^2-12x+20} \\ &= \frac{4x(x-5)}{(x+7)(x-5)} + \frac{3(x-2)}{(x-10)(x+2)} \\ &= \frac{4x}{x+7} + \frac{3}{x-10} \stackrel{(x+7)}{\sim} \\ &= \frac{4x^2-40x+3x+21}{(x-10)(x+7)} \\ &= \frac{4x^2-37x+21}{(x-10)(x+7)} ; x \neq -7, 10 \end{aligned}$$

7) Simplify and state the restrictions.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a)} & \frac{1}{x-5} - \frac{1}{5-x} \\ &= \frac{1}{x-5} + \frac{1}{x-5} \\ &= \frac{2}{x-5} ; x \neq 5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b)} & \frac{3x+2}{3-4x} + \frac{2x+1}{4x-3} \\ &= \frac{3x+2}{3-4x} - \frac{2x+1}{3-4x} \\ &= \frac{3x+2-2x-1}{3-4x} \\ &= \frac{x+1}{3-4x} ; x \neq \frac{3}{4} \end{aligned}$$

Answers

1) a) $\frac{1}{x+3}$; $x \neq -3, 7$ b) $\frac{x+5}{x+3}$; $x \neq -3, \frac{3}{2}$

2) a) $48x^4$; $x \neq 0$ b) $\frac{1}{3x}$; $x \neq 0, y \neq 0$

3) a) 4; $x \neq 6$ b) $\frac{x-8}{x-6}$; $x \neq -2, 6$ c) $\frac{4x}{x+6}$; $x \neq -6, 0, 5$ d) $\frac{1}{x-4}$; $x \neq -2, -1, 1, 4$

4) a) 2; $x \neq -1, 0$ b) $\frac{x-5}{x+10}$; $x \neq -12, -10, 5$ c) $\frac{1}{6}$; $x \neq 0, 9$ d) $\frac{3}{x+1}$; $x \neq -2, -1, 2, 5$

5) a) $-\frac{1}{28x}$; $x \neq 0$ b) $\frac{8+9a}{2ab}$; $a \neq 0, b \neq 0$ c) $\frac{-3(x-7)}{(x-3)(x+3)}$; $x \neq -3, 3$ d) $\frac{9(2x+1)}{(x+4)(x-5)}$; $x \neq -4, 5$

6) a) $\frac{2x^2-3x+3}{(x-6)(x-3)}$; $x \neq 3, 6$ b) $\frac{2x^2+4x-3}{(x-2)(x+2)}$; $x \neq -2, 2$ c) $\frac{1}{x+2}$; $x \neq -3, -2, 1$ d) $\frac{4x^2-37x+21}{(x+7)(x-10)}$; $x \neq -7, 2, 5, 10$

7) a) $\frac{2}{x-5}$; $x \neq 5$ b) $\frac{-x-1}{4x-3}$; $x \neq \frac{3}{4}$

OR

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