

**UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN**  
**Department of Mathematics & Statistics**  
**Mathematics 101.3 Solutions to Practice Quiz #1**

Early October, 1999

Time: 50 minutes

Instructor: *Doug MacLean*

CLOSED BOOK — NO CALCULATORS PERMITTED

Each question is worth 4%

The possible answers to all questions are the digits in the **ANSWER SET**:

(A) 0    (B) 1    (C) 2 (D) 3    (E) 4    (F) 5    (G) 6    (H) 7    (I) 8    (J) 9

If  $\frac{7}{12} - \frac{3}{5}$  is written in its simplest form as  $\frac{-a}{10b+c}$ , where  $a, b$ , and  $c$  are digits, then

**Solution:**  $\frac{7}{12} - \frac{3}{5} = \frac{7 \cdot 5}{12 \cdot 5} - \frac{3 \cdot 12}{5 \cdot 12} = \frac{35 - 36}{60} = \frac{-1}{60}$

(1)  $a = 1$

(2)  $b = 6$

(3)  $c = 0$

$x^2 + 8x + 20$  is to be written in the form  $a(x + b)^2 + c$  by completing squares. We must have:

**Solution:**  $x^2 + 8x + 20 = x^2 + 2(4)x + 4^2 - 4^2 + 20 = (1)(x + 4)^2 + 4$

(4)  $a = 1$

(5)  $b = 4$

(6)  $c = 4$

$3x^2 + 12x + 4$  is to be written in the form  $a(x + b)^2 - c$  by completing squares. We must have:

**Solution:**  $3x^2 + 12x + 4 = 3 \left( x^2 + 4x + \frac{4}{3} \right) = 3 \left( x^2 + 2(2)x + 2^2 - 2^2 + \frac{4}{3} \right) =$

$$3 \left( (x + 2^2(2) - 4 + \frac{4}{3}) \right) = 3 \left( (x + 2^2(2) - \frac{12}{3} + \frac{4}{3}) \right) = 3 \left( (x + 2^2(2) - \frac{8}{3}) \right) =$$

$$3(x + 2)^2 - 3 \frac{8}{3} = 3(x + 2)^2 - 8$$

(7)  $a = 3$

(8)  $b = 2$

(9)  $c = 8$

(10) If  $-a$  is the slope of the line through the points  $(5, -3)$  and  $(-1, 3)$ , then  $a$  is:

**Solution:**  $-a = \frac{3 - (-3)}{-1 - 5} = \frac{6}{-6} = -1$ , so  $a = 1$

(11) Let  $f(x) = \frac{x^3}{(x+3)^3}$ . Find **Correction:**  $-f(-2)$

**Solution:**  $-f(-2) = -\frac{(-2)^3}{((-2)+3)^3} = -\frac{-8}{1} = 8$

The roots of  $x^2 - 8x + 16 = 0$  in their simplest form are  $\frac{A \pm B\sqrt{C}}{D}$ . We must have:

**Solution:** The roots are  $\frac{-(-8) \pm \sqrt{(-8)^2 - 4(1)(16)}}{2(1)} = \frac{8 \pm \sqrt{64 - 64}}{2} = \frac{8 \pm \sqrt{0}}{2}$

(12)  $A = 8$

(13)  $B = 1$

(14)  $C = 0$

(15)  $D = 2$

The polynomial  $3x^4 + x^3 - 3x^2 - x$  can be factored in the form  $x(x - a)(x + b)(cx + d)$ , where  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ , and  $d$  are digits. Their values are:

**Solution:**  $p(x) = 3x^4 + x^3 - 3x^2 - x = x(3x^3 + x^2 - 3x - 1)$ . The only possible integer roots of  $p(x)$  are  $-1$  and  $1$ . It is easily computed that both numbers are roots of  $p(x)$ , so we have  $x + 1$  and  $x - 1$  are factors of  $p(x)$ . Dividing them both into  $3x^3 + x^2 - 3x - 1$ , we find that  $3x + 1$  is the remaining factor. Thus  $p(x) = x(x - 1)(x + 1)(3x + 1)$

(16)  $a = 1$

(17)  $b = 1$

(18)  $c = 3$

(19)  $d = 1$

$\frac{4 - 2\sqrt{2}}{2 - \sqrt{2}}$  can be simplified to the expression  $a - b\sqrt{c}$ , where  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are digits. Their values are:

**Solution:** Use conjugates:  $\frac{4 - 2\sqrt{2}}{2 - \sqrt{2}} \left( \frac{2 + \sqrt{2}}{2 + \sqrt{2}} \right) = \frac{(4 - 2\sqrt{2})(2 + \sqrt{2})}{2^2 - 2} = \frac{8 + 4\sqrt{2} - 4\sqrt{2} - 2(2)}{4 - 2} =$

$\frac{4}{2} = 2 - 0\sqrt{2}$

(20)  $a = 2$

(21)  $b = 0$

(22)  $c = 2$

If we solve the inequality  $\left| \frac{2-x}{3} \right| \leq 2$ , the solution is an interval of the form  $[a, b]$ .  
The values of  $a$  and  $b$  are:

**Solution:**  $\left| \frac{2-x}{3} \right| \leq 2 \Leftrightarrow \frac{|2-x|}{|3|} \leq 2 \Leftrightarrow \frac{|2-x|}{3} \leq 2 \Leftrightarrow 3 \frac{|2-x|}{3} \leq 3(2) \Leftrightarrow |2-x| \leq 6$  so  
the inequality is satisfied by all numbers within 6 units of 2, so the solution is

$(-4, 8)$

(23)  $a = -4$

(24)  $b = 8$

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(25) The slope of the line perpendicular to the line  $y = -\frac{x}{9}$  which passes through the point  $(0, 0)$  is:

**Solution:**  $-\frac{1}{-\frac{1}{9}} = 9$

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