

GCSE · Edexcel · Maths

3 hours



Exam Questions

Algebraic Fractions

Simplifying Algebraic Fractions / Adding & Subtracting Algebraic Fractions / Multiplying & Dividing Algebraic Fractions / Solving Equations with Algebraic Fractions

Total Marks	/151
Very Hard (15 questions)	/63
Hard (14 questions)	/50
Medium (16 questions)	/38

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Medium Questions

1 Write as a single fraction in its simplest form

$$\frac{2}{y+3} - \frac{1}{y-6}$$

(3 marks)

2 Write
$$\frac{5}{x-3} - \frac{4}{x+3}$$
 as a single fraction in its simplest form.

(3 marks)

3 Simplify
$$\frac{x+1}{2} + \frac{x+3}{3}$$

(3 marks)

4 Simplify
$$\frac{4(x+5)}{x^2+2x-15}$$

(1 mark)

6 Express

$$\frac{3}{x} + \frac{x+2}{2x} + \frac{1}{4}$$

as a single fraction in its simplest form.

(3 marks)

7 Express
$$\frac{4}{x-2} - \frac{3}{x+1}$$
 as a single fraction.

Give your answer in its simplest form.

(3 marks)

8 Write
$$\frac{2x+1}{4} + \frac{x-2}{3}$$
 as a single fraction in its simplest form.

(3 marks)

9 Write as a single fraction
$$\frac{2}{3x} + \frac{4}{5x} - \frac{9}{10x}$$

Give your answer in its simplest form.

(2 marks)

10 Simplify fully
$$\frac{10x^2 + 23x + 12}{4x^2 - 9}$$

(3 marks)

11 Simplify
$$\frac{3}{x} + \frac{4}{x}$$

A.
$$\frac{7}{x}$$

B.
$$\frac{7}{2x}$$

c.
$$\frac{12}{x}$$

D.
$$\frac{12}{x^2}$$

(1 mark)

12 Simplify
$$\frac{25a}{8} \times \frac{2a}{5}$$

Give your answer as a single fraction in its simplest form.

(2 marks)

13 Show that, for $x \neq 0$

$$\frac{x+4}{3x} - \frac{5}{2x}$$

can be written in the form $\frac{ax + b}{cx}$ where a, b and c are integers.

(3 marks)

14 Choose the expression that is equivalent to $\frac{3x^2}{6x^2+3}$

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

B.
$$\frac{x^2}{6x^2+1}$$

c.
$$\frac{x^2}{2x^2+1}$$

D.
$$\frac{1}{2} + x^2$$

(1 mark)

15 Write as a single fraction in its simplest form.

$$\frac{3}{x-1} + \frac{4}{x+2}$$

(3 marks)

16 Express as a single fraction.

$$\frac{m+1}{n+1} - \frac{m}{n}$$

Simplify your answer.



Hard Questions

1 Simplify fully
$$\frac{2x^2 - 5x + 3}{x^2 + 5x - 6}$$

(3 marks)

2 Write as a single fraction in its simplest form
$$\frac{5}{2-x} - \frac{4}{x}$$

(3 marks)

3 Simplify
$$\frac{x^2 - 16}{2x^2 - 5x - 12}$$

(3 marks)

4 Simplify fully
$$\frac{3x^2 - 8x - 3}{2x^2 - 6x}$$

(3 marks)

5 Show that
$$\frac{2x^2 - 3x - 5}{x^2 + 6x + 5}$$
 can be written in the form $\frac{ax + b}{cx + d}$ where a , b , c and d are integers.

(3 marks)

6 (a) Simplify fully
$$\frac{x^2 + 3x - 4}{2x^2 - 5x + 3}$$

(3 marks)

(b) Write
$$\frac{4}{x+2} + \frac{3}{x-2}$$
 as a single fraction in its simplest form.

(3 marks)

7 Show that
$$\frac{a}{b+1} - \frac{a}{(b+1)^2}$$
 can be written as $\frac{ab}{(b+1)^2}$

8 Simplify
$$\frac{x^2 - 9}{2x^2 + 5x - 3}$$

(3 marks)

9 Solve
$$\frac{4-3x}{5} - \frac{3x-5}{2} = -3$$

Show clear algebraic working.

X =

(3 marks)

10 Solve the equation

$$\frac{5}{x+2} + \frac{3}{x^2 + 2x} = 2$$

Show clear algebraic working.

(5 marks)

11 Simplify fully
$$\frac{x^5 - 4x^3}{3x - 6}$$

12 Show that, for $x \neq -1$

$$\frac{8x^2 - 8}{4x + 4}$$
 simplifies to the form $ax + b$

where a and b are integers.

(3 marks)

13 Show that $\frac{x+9}{x^2-1} + \frac{4}{x+1}$ can be written in the form $\frac{a}{x-1}$ where a is an integer.

(4 marks)

14 Show that
$$\frac{5x}{x+5} + \frac{25}{x-7} - \frac{300}{(x+5)(x-7)}$$
 simplifies to an integer.

(6 marks)

Very Hard Questions

1
$$2 - \frac{x+2}{x-3} - \frac{x-6}{x+3}$$
 can be written as a single fraction in the form $\frac{ax+b}{x^2-9}$

where a and b are integers.

Work out the value of a and the value of b.

(4 marks)

2 Show that
$$\frac{1}{6x^2 + 7x - 5} \div \frac{1}{4x^2 - 1}$$
 simplifies to $\frac{ax + b}{cx + d}$ where a , b , c and d are integers.

(3 marks)

3 (a) Simplify fully
$$\frac{3-x}{3x^2-5x-12}$$

(b) Write
$$\frac{x}{x-1} - \frac{x}{x+1}$$
 as a single fraction in its simplest form.

(3 marks)

4 Write

$$4 - \left[(x+3) \div \frac{x^2 + 5x + 6}{x-2} \right]$$

as a single fraction in its simplest form. You must show your working.

(4 marks)

5 Show that
$$\frac{3x+6}{x^2-3x-10} \div \frac{x+5}{x^3-25x}$$
 simplifies to ax where a is an integer.

(4 marks)

6 Show that
$$6 + \left[(x+5) \div \frac{x^2 + 3x - 10}{x-1} \right]$$
 simplifies to $\frac{ax - b}{cx - d}$ where a , b , c and d are integers.

(4 marks)

7 Write
$$\frac{25x^2-64}{5x^2-13x-6} \times \frac{x^2-8x+15}{5x+8} - (x-7)$$

as a single fraction in its simplest form.

Show clear algebraic working.

(4 marks)

8 Given that
$$x = \frac{5}{9y+5}$$
 and that $y = \frac{5}{5a-2}$

find an expression for x in terms of a.

Give your expression as a single fraction in its simplest form.

(4 marks)

9 Express
$$\frac{1}{9x^2-25} - \frac{1}{6x+10}$$
 as a single fraction in its simplest form.

(3 marks)

$$10 \quad \text{Simplify} \quad \frac{2^n - 1}{4^n - 1}$$

(2 marks)

11 The flight of a plane was in two stages.

The table shows information about the flight.

	Distance (miles)	Speed (mph)	Time (hours)
1st stage	731	X	$\frac{731}{x}$
2nd stage	287	x – 24	$\frac{287}{x-24}$

In total, the flight lasted 2 hours.

Work out the value of *X*.

(5 marks)

12 Solve
$$\frac{5}{4x+1} = \frac{2x}{x^2+3}$$

Give your solutions to 3 significant figures.

You **must** show your working.

(5 marks)

13 Solve
$$\frac{x}{x+4} + \frac{7}{x-2} = 1$$

You **must** show your working.

X=.....

(4 marks)

14 Solve
$$\frac{x}{4} - \frac{2x}{x+2} = 1$$

Give your solutions to 2 decimal places.

You **must** show your working.

15 Solve this equation, giving your answers correct to 1 decimal place.

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

X = or X =

(6 marks)