

GCSE 7+ Session 2
Independent Practice
Algebra with indices and surds



Revise, refresh, recall the core knowledge and skills:

1 Simplify fully a) $\sqrt{x^{12}}$ b) $\sqrt[3]{x^{12}}$ c) $(2x^3y^2)^4$
d) $\frac{25x^8}{40x^5}$ e) $\frac{25x+5x^2}{40+8x}$

2 Write as a single fraction

a) $\frac{x}{3} + \frac{x}{5}$ b) $\frac{3}{x} + \frac{5}{x}$ c) $\frac{3}{x} + \frac{5}{x^2}$

3 Solve a) $x^3 = -\frac{8}{27}$ b) $x^{-2} = 64$ c) $2^x = 8^{12}$

4 Solve a) $\sqrt{2}x + 12 = 8$ b) $\sqrt{2}x + 12 = \sqrt{8}x$

5 Make x the subject of a) $p - qx = r$ b) $p - qx = rx$

Practice makes permanent: these questions will help you embed and make secure your factual knowledge, procedural fluency and conceptual understanding:

6 Simplify fully

a) $\sqrt{100x^{100}}$ b) $\sqrt[3]{8x^{18}}$ c) $(8x^{12}y^{-6})^{\frac{2}{3}}$
d) $\frac{12x^2 + 4x^3}{8x^3}$ e) $\frac{12x^2 + 4x^3}{3x + 9}$

7 Write as a single fraction

a) $x^{-1} - x^{-2}$ b) $4x^{-2} - (3x)^{-1}$ c) $(4x)^{-2} - 3x^{-1}$

8 Solve a) $x^3 = 15\frac{5}{8}$ b) $x^{-2} = 16\frac{1}{3}$ c) $8^x = 32^{12}$

9 Make x the subject of

a) $\frac{b}{x-b} = a$ b) $\frac{x+b}{x-b} = a$ c) $\frac{\sqrt{x}}{b-\sqrt{x}} = a$

$$d) \quad \frac{b}{x} = a \qquad e) \quad \frac{b}{x} + b = a \qquad f) \quad \frac{b}{x} + b = \frac{a}{x}$$

$$10 \quad \text{Solve} \quad a) \quad \sqrt{2}x + 12 = x \qquad b) \quad \sqrt{2}x + 12 = \sqrt{5}x$$

$$11 \quad \text{Solve} \quad a) \quad \begin{cases} 3x - 2y = 12\sqrt{6} \\ 2x + 3y = -\sqrt{150} \end{cases} \qquad b) \quad \begin{cases} \sqrt{3}x + 2y = 10 \\ x - \sqrt{3}y = \sqrt{75} \end{cases}$$

Productive struggle: these harder questions require deeper thinking.

12 Simplify fully

$$a) \quad \sqrt{100x^{44}} \div \sqrt[3]{1000x^{66}} \qquad b) \quad (2x^4y^{-2})^3 \times \sqrt{36x^{-8}y^{14}}$$

$$c) \quad \sqrt[3]{64x^{27}} - 3x^3 - \sqrt{16x^{18}} - x^3 \qquad d) \quad \sqrt[3]{64x^{27}} \div 3x^3 \times \sqrt{16x^{18}} \div x^3$$

13 Write as a single fraction

$$a) \quad 3x^{-1} - 4x^{-3} \qquad b) \quad (3x)^{-2} \times 4x^{-3} \qquad c) \quad (4x)^{-2} \div 3x^{-3}$$

$$d) \quad 5(2x)^{-3} - 4(5x)^{-1} \qquad e) \quad 3x - 3x^{-2} - (3x)^{-1}$$

$$f) \quad 4x^{\frac{1}{2}} - 9x^{-\frac{1}{2}} \qquad g) \quad (4x)^{\frac{1}{2}} - (9x)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

14 Solve

$$a) \quad x^{-1.25} = 3^{-15} \qquad b) \quad x^{2.5} = 3^{10} \qquad c) \quad 4^{2x-1} = 8^{x+3}$$

15 Simplify fully

$$a) \quad \left(\frac{9x^6}{y^4}\right)^{-\frac{3}{2}} \qquad b) \quad \frac{25x^{-8}}{40x^{-5}} \qquad c) \quad \frac{25x^{-3}\sqrt{y}}{40x^{-2}\sqrt{y^3}}$$

$$d) \quad \frac{3x^2 - 6x^3}{10x^4 - 5x^3} \qquad e) \quad \frac{3x^{-2} - 6x^{-3}}{5x^{-3} - 10x^{-4}}$$

16 Give a fully simplified expression for the **width** of a rectangle which has

- Area = $18a^3b^2 + 12a^2b^3$
- Length = $27a^2 + 18ab$