

Combining Terms

Last lesson we reviewed exponent laws for $x^a \cdot x^b = x^{a+b}$... Now we look at $x^a + x^b$

Notice the difference between

$$(6x)(7x)(5x) \\ = (6)(7)(5)x^3 \quad \text{or} \quad 210x^3$$

the exponent changes to 3

$$6x + 7x + 5x \\ = (6 + 7 + 5)x \quad \text{or} \quad 18x$$

the x remains a x and only the coefficient changes

When added or subtracting terms – we can only combine like terms

These work: $6x^2 + 8x^2 = 14x^2$, $18xy - 14yx = 4xy$, $10x^2y + 4x^2y = 14x^2y$

These don't $6x^2y + 7xy^2$, $10xy - 7x + 9y$, $7x^3 + 4x^2$

1) Simplify the following (write in descending powers of x)

a) $5x^2 - 9x + 19 - 7x + 11x - 3x^2$

$$= (5 - 3)x^2 + (-9 - 7 + 11)x + 19 \\ = 2x^2 - 5x + 19$$

b) $18xy - 15x^2 - 19y^2 + 12x^2 - 13yx - 4x^2 + 9y^2 - 11x^2$

$$= (-15 + 12 - 4 - 11)x^2 + (18 - 13)xy + (-19 + 9)y^2 \\ = -18x^2 + 5xy - 10y^2$$

c) $(9x^7)(7x^6) - 5x(12x^{12}) - 16x(3x^2)$

$$= 63x^{13} - 60x^{13} - 48x^3 \\ = 3x^{13} - 48x^3$$

d) $(6x^2 - 17x + 5) + (12x^2 - 18x - 17) - (15x^2 + 9x - 10)$
for + the brackets make the question look nice, for - the signs need to change (group the terms when you rewrite it)

$$6x^2 + 12x^2 - 15x^2 - 17x - 18x - 9x + 5 - 17 + 10 \\ = 3x^2 - 44x - 2$$

e) $10x^3y^2 - 18x^2y^3 + 17y^3x^2 - 11x^3y^2 + 4y^2x^3 - 16x^3y$
too be a like term the variables and exponents MUST match (their order is not important)

$$= (10 - 11 + 4)x^3y^2 + (-18 + 17)x^2y^3 - 16x^3y \\ = 3x^3y^2 - x^2y^3 - 16x^3y$$

2) Evaluate if $x = -4$ and $y = 3$

a) $4xy - 3x^2 + 5x^2 - 10xy$ b) $3x^2y - 19xy^2 + 16y^2x + 2x^2y$

well I'm not subbing in 4 times ... I'll simplify first

$$2x^2 - 6xy \\ 2(-4)^2 - 6(-4)(3) \\ 2(16) + 72 = 104$$

$$5x^2y - 3xy^2 \\ 5(-4)^2(3) - 3(-4)(3)^2 \\ 5(16)(3) - 3(-4)(9) \\ 240 + 108 = 348$$

Assignment = worksheet

Like terms, combining and evaluating ... a review

1) Combine the following

- a) $8x + 4x - 19x - 12x$ b) $-7a - a - 12a$ c) $-3p^2 + 8p - 6p^2$
- d) $32m^2 - 17m - 6m$ e) $-65x^2 + 3x - 27x$ f) $-18n - 24n + 20n^2$
- g) $3x - 5y + 2x - 7y - 6y + 3z$ h) $-2b - 5a + 3b - 7c - c$ i) $9x^2(-6x^2y)$
- j) $2xy - 3x^2y + 10yx - 3y^2x + 2x^2y - 7xy^2$ k) $9xy^2 + 6xy - 8xy^2 + 6x^2y^2 - 6yx$
- l) $(5x + 6) - (7x - 9) + (4x - 11) - (3x - 1)$ m) $(9x^2 - 7x + 3) - (2x^2 - 8x - 7)$

2) Evaluate the following if $x = -3, y = 2, z = -1$

a) $9x^2yz$ b) $-4xy^3z^2$ c) $-x^3y^3z^7$

d) $-3x^2 - 8x + y$ e) $4y^2 - 9x$ f) $4x - y - 5z$

What did the Martian say when he accidentally landed on Venus?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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T $5x^2 + 2x^2 - 3x^2$

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

S $4x^3 + x^2 + 4x$

I $(4x^3)(x^2)(4x)$

L $-3x^3 + 5x^2 - 3x^3$

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

I $(3a)(a^2)(a^3) + (2a^2)(a^4)$

T $(3x)(2y)$

T $(a^4)(5a)(a^2) + (-4a^3)(2a^3)(a)$

D $(7xy^2)(-2xy^2)$

W $(2a^3)(a^2)(3a^2) + (8a^2)(-a^2)(a)$

A $(7x^2y)(-2xy^2)$

H $(2ab^2)(-2a^2b^2) - (ab^3)(6a^2b)$

I $7x^2y - 2xy^2$

N $(-a^2b)(ab^2)(a^2b^2) + (a^3b^2)(-a^2b^3)$

Y $7xy^2 - 2xy^2$

P $(4a^2b^2)(-3b^3) - (2ab^2)(-6ab^3)$

D $(5a^2)(2ab) + (a^2b)(3a)$ E $3x + 2y$

ANSWERS

- | | |
|----|-------------------|
| 19 | $5xy^2$ |
| 1 | $16x^6$ |
| 11 | $3x + 2y$ |
| 15 | $7x^2y - 2xy^2$ |
| 13 | $4x^2$ |
| 16 | $4x^3 + x^2 + 4x$ |
| 18 | $45x^8$ |
| 9 | $-14x^3y^3$ |
| 5 | $-30x^6$ |
| 2 | $-14x^2y^4$ |
| 6 | $6xy$ |
| 8 | $-6x^3 + 5x^2$ |
| 10 | $-2a^5b^5$ |
| 4 | $13a^3b$ |
| 12 | $-3a^7$ |
| 7 | 0 |
| 14 | $-10a^3b^4$ |
| 3 | $5a^6$ |
| 17 | $6a^7 - 8a^5$ |