



The Learning Centre

Basic Algebra Proficiency Practice Test

This practice test contains 13 questions. The actual test contains 25 questions.
The use of a calculator is not permitted.

Topics for this test include: factoring, rational expressions, inequalities, systems of equations, word problems, exponents, radicals, ratios and proportions, graphs of linear functions.

1. $\frac{2x}{x^2 - 25} \cdot \frac{1}{x + 5} =$

A. $\frac{2x}{x^2 - 25}$

B. $\frac{1}{x + 5}$

C. $\frac{1}{x - 5}$

D. $x + 5$

E. $\frac{2x - 1}{x - 20}$

2. $\frac{a}{a + \frac{3}{b}} =$

A. $\frac{b}{b + 3}$

B. $\frac{b + 3}{b}$

C. $\frac{b}{3}$

D. $\frac{ab}{ab + 3}$

E. $\frac{ab}{a + 3}$

3. $\sqrt[10]{\frac{15x}{6x}}$

A. $\frac{\sqrt[10]{6x}}{3x}$

B. $\frac{2\sqrt[10]{3x}}{3x}$

C. $\frac{2\sqrt[10]{15x}}{3x}$

D. $\frac{\sqrt[10]{3x}}{2}$

E. $\frac{\sqrt[10]{15x}}{10}$

4. $\sqrt[9]{9x} + 5\sqrt[10]{x} =$

A. $\sqrt[14]{x}$

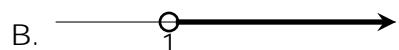
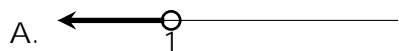
B. $5\sqrt[10]{x}$

C. $\sqrt[34]{x}$

D. $8\sqrt[10]{x}$

E. $6\sqrt[10]{x}$

5. Of the following graphs, which best represents the solution of the inequality $2x + 3 < 5$?



6. If $\frac{1}{x} + 5 = \frac{x - 4}{x}$, then $x =$

A. 10

B. $\frac{1}{8}$

C. $\frac{1}{2}$

D. $\frac{3}{4}$

E. $\frac{5}{4}$

7. The x coordinate of the solution to the system of equations

$$\begin{cases} 4x + 3y = 9 \\ 4x - 3y = 7 \end{cases} \text{ is:}$$

A. $x = 16$

B. $x = 4$

C. $x = 2$

D. $x = \frac{1}{3}$

E. $x = \frac{1}{4}$

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8. $\frac{x^2 - 16}{x^2 - 8x + 16} =$
- A. $\frac{x + 4}{x - 4}$ B. 0 C. $\frac{1}{8x}$ D. 1 E. $\frac{16}{8x + 16}$
9. A student has 42 coins worth a total of \$5.90. Each coin is either a nickel (5 cents) or a quarter (25 cents). If x is the number of nickels, then x can be determined from the equation
- A. $0.05x + 0.25(42 - x) = 5.90$
B. $0.05 + 0.25(42 - x) = 5.90$
C. $0.05x + 10.50 = 5.90$
D. $42x = 5.90$
E. $\frac{x}{0.05} + \frac{42 - x}{0.25} = 5.90$
10. One of the factors of $14x^2 + x - 3$ is
- A. $7x - 3$ B. $14x - 1$ C. $2x - 1$ D. $7x + 3$ E. $7x + 1$
11. $\sqrt[10]{80a^8b^{12}}$
- A. $4a^4b^6$ B. $40a^4b^6$ C. $4a^6b^{10}\sqrt[10]{5}$ D. $4a^4b^6\sqrt[10]{5}$ E. $40a^8b^{12}$
12. In a certain company, 240 of the employees are men. What is the total number of employees if 5 out of every 8 employees are men?
- A. 9600 B. 1920 C. 384 D. 150 E. 16
13. Which of the following points lies on the line $3x + 4y + 5 = 0$?
- A. $(4; \frac{11}{3})$ B. $(4; \frac{7}{4})$ C. $(0; \frac{5}{4})$ D. $(4; -7)$ E. $(4; \frac{17}{4})$

Answers:

1. C 2. D 3. C 4. D 5. A 6. E
7. C 8. A 9. A 10. A 11. D 12. C
13. B