

Rationalization (Surds)

MCQ Test, Set 08

Time: 30 minutes

Maximum marks: 25

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

- There are 25 questions. Each has exactly one correct answer: choose A, B, C or D.
- Each correct answer carries 1 mark. There is no negative marking.
- The key sheet and worked solutions are at the end of this test.

1. For which value of n is $\sqrt{n}$ a rational number?

- A. 50 B. 400 C. 48 D. 55

2. $\sqrt[5]{19}$ and π are both irrational. Which of them is a surd?

- A. Both B. $\sqrt[5]{19}$ only C. Neither D. π only

3. $2\sqrt{n}$ is a mixed surd when n is

- A. 24 B. 400 C. 36 D. 81

4. Which of the following is the conjugate of $20 + \sqrt{21}$?

- A. $-20 - \sqrt{21}$ B. $\frac{1}{20+\sqrt{21}}$ C. $-20 + \sqrt{21}$ D. $20 - \sqrt{21}$

5. $\sqrt{7} \times \sqrt{17} =$

- A. $\sqrt{24}$ B. 119 C. $\sqrt{119}$ D. $7\sqrt{17}$

6. $\frac{\sqrt{180}}{\sqrt{5}} =$

- A. $6\sqrt{5}$ B. 36 C. 6 D. $\sqrt{175}$

7. $\frac{\sqrt{13}}{\sqrt{23}} =$

- A. $\frac{13}{23}$ B. $\sqrt{\frac{13}{23}}$ C. $\sqrt{10}$ D. $\sqrt{\frac{23}{13}}$

8. $\sqrt[7]{16}$ in exponent form is

- A. $7^{\frac{1}{16}}$ B. 16^7 C. $\frac{16}{7}$ D. $16^{\frac{1}{7}}$

9. $\frac{\sqrt[4]{768}}{\sqrt[4]{3}} =$

- A. 256 B. 4 C. $\sqrt[4]{765}$ D. $\sqrt[4]{771}$

10. $(7\sqrt{14})^2 =$

- A. 686 B. 98 C. $49\sqrt{14}$ D. 9604

11. $(6 - \sqrt{11})(9 - \sqrt{11}) =$

- A. 65 B. $65 + 15\sqrt{11}$ C. $43 - 15\sqrt{11}$ D. $65 - 15\sqrt{11}$

12. $(9 - \sqrt{6})(7 - \sqrt{6}) =$
A. $69 + 16\sqrt{6}$ **B.** 69 **C.** $69 - 16\sqrt{6}$ **D.** $57 - 16\sqrt{6}$
-
13. A rationalising factor of $4\sqrt{11}$ is
A. $4 + \sqrt{11}$ **B.** 11 **C.** 4 **D.** $\sqrt{11}$
-
14. $(\sqrt[3]{7} - \sqrt[3]{5})((\sqrt[3]{7})^2 + \sqrt[3]{7} \cdot \sqrt[3]{5} + (\sqrt[3]{5})^2) =$
A. 12 **B.** $\sqrt[3]{2}$ **C.** 2 **D.** 218
-
15. $\sqrt{224}$ in simplest form is
A. $4\sqrt{14}$ **B.** $14\sqrt{16}$ **C.** $16\sqrt{14}$ **D.** $4\sqrt{56}$
-
16. $(\sqrt{6})^3 =$
A. 36 **B.** $3\sqrt{6}$ **C.** $6\sqrt{6}$ **D.** 6
-
17. $(6 - \sqrt{3})^2 =$
A. 39 **B.** $39 - 6\sqrt{3}$ **C.** $39 - 12\sqrt{3}$ **D.** $45 - 12\sqrt{3}$
-
18. $(10 + 5\sqrt{2})(10 - 5\sqrt{2}) =$
A. 50 **B.** 90 **C.** 150 **D.** 0
-
19. $\frac{1}{9-\sqrt{3}} =$
A. $\frac{9+\sqrt{3}}{6}$ **B.** $\frac{9+\sqrt{3}}{84}$ **C.** $\frac{9-\sqrt{3}}{78}$ **D.** $\frac{9+\sqrt{3}}{78}$
-
20. If $\frac{4+2\sqrt{3}}{4-2\sqrt{3}} = a + b\sqrt{3}$, then $a + b =$
A. 28 **B.** 6 **C.** 3 **D.** 11
-
21. $\frac{\sqrt{11}+\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{11}-\sqrt{6}} + \frac{\sqrt{11}-\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{11}+\sqrt{6}} =$
A. $\frac{4\sqrt{66}}{5}$ **B.** $-\frac{34}{5}$ **C.** $\frac{34}{5}$ **D.** $\frac{17}{5}$
-
22. $\frac{1}{6+\sqrt{5}} + \frac{1}{6-\sqrt{5}} =$
A. $\frac{12}{31}$ **B.** 0 **C.** $\frac{2\sqrt{5}}{31}$ **D.** $\frac{12}{41}$
-
23. If $x = \sqrt[3]{13 - 2\sqrt{42}}$, then $x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3} =$
A. 13 **B.** $4\sqrt{42}$ **C.** 26 **D.** 0
-
24. $\sqrt{14 - 2\sqrt{45}} =$
A. $3 + \sqrt{5}$ **B.** $\sqrt{45} - 1$ **C.** $\sqrt{5} - 3$ **D.** $3 - \sqrt{5}$
-
25. $\sqrt{10 + \sqrt{99}} =$
A. $\frac{\sqrt{11}-3}{\sqrt{2}}$ **B.** $\frac{\sqrt{11}+3}{\sqrt{2}}$
C. $\sqrt{11} + 3$ **D.** $\frac{\sqrt{11}+3}{2}$
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Key sheet

1. B	2. B	3. A	4. D	5. C
6. C	7. B	8. D	9. B	10. A
11. D	12. C	13. D	14. C	15. A
16. C	17. C	18. A	19. D	20. D
21. C	22. A	23. C	24. D	25. B

Solutions

1. For which value of n is $\sqrt{n}$ a rational number?

$$\sqrt{400} = \sqrt{20 \times 20} = 20$$

The other three are not perfect squares, so their roots are surds.

Ans: (B) 400

2. $\sqrt[5]{19}$ and π are both irrational. Which of them is a surd?

$1^5 = 1$ and $2^5 = 32$, so 19 is not a perfect fifth power. So $\sqrt[5]{19}$ is a surd.

π is irrational but it is not a root of a rational number, so it is not a surd.

Ans: (B) $\sqrt[5]{19}$ only

3. $2\sqrt{n}$ is a mixed surd when n is

$4^2 = 16$ and $5^2 = 25$, so 24 is not a perfect square. So $2\sqrt{24}$ is a mixed surd.

For the others $\sqrt{n}$ is a whole number, so the product is rational.

Ans: (A) 24

4. Which of the following is the conjugate of $20 + \sqrt{21}$?

Only the sign of the surd part changes: the conjugate of $20 + \sqrt{21}$ is $20 - \sqrt{21}$.

Ans: (D) $20 - \sqrt{21}$

5. $\sqrt{7} \times \sqrt{17} =$

$$\sqrt{7} \times \sqrt{17} = \sqrt{7 \times 17} = \sqrt{119} \text{ (multiply the numbers under the roots).}$$

Ans: (C) $\sqrt{119}$

6. $\frac{\sqrt{180}}{\sqrt{5}} =$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\sqrt{180}}{\sqrt{5}} &= \sqrt{\frac{180}{5}} \\ &= \sqrt{36} = \sqrt{6 \times 6} = 6\end{aligned}$$

Ans: (C) 6

7. $\frac{\sqrt{13}}{\sqrt{23}} =$

$$\frac{\sqrt{13}}{\sqrt{23}} = \sqrt{\frac{13}{23}} \text{ (divide the numbers under the roots)}$$

Ans: (B) $\sqrt{\frac{13}{23}}$

8. $\sqrt[7]{16}$ in exponent form is

$$\sqrt[n]{a} = a^{\frac{1}{n}}, \text{ so } \sqrt[7]{16} = 16^{\frac{1}{7}}$$

Ans: (D) $16^{\frac{1}{7}}$

9. $\frac{\sqrt[4]{768}}{\sqrt[4]{3}} =$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\sqrt[4]{768}}{\sqrt[4]{3}} &= \sqrt[4]{\frac{768}{3}} \\ &= \sqrt[4]{256} = \sqrt[4]{4^4} = 4\end{aligned}$$

Ans: (B) 4

10. $(7\sqrt{14})^2 =$
 $(7\sqrt{14})^2 = 7^2 \times (\sqrt{14})^2$
 $= 49 \times 14 = 686$

Ans: (A) 686

11. $(6 - \sqrt{11})(9 - \sqrt{11}) =$
 $(6 - \sqrt{11})(9 - \sqrt{11}) = 54 - 6\sqrt{11} - 9\sqrt{11} + 11$
 $= 65 - 15\sqrt{11}$

Ans: (D) $65 - 15\sqrt{11}$

12. $(9 - \sqrt{6})(7 - \sqrt{6}) =$
 $(9 - \sqrt{6})(7 - \sqrt{6}) = 63 - 9\sqrt{6} - 7\sqrt{6} + 6$
 $= 69 - 16\sqrt{6}$

Ans: (C) $69 - 16\sqrt{6}$

13. A rationalising factor of $4\sqrt{11}$ is
 $4\sqrt{11} \times \sqrt{11} = 4 \times 11 = 44$, a rational number.

Ans: (D) $\sqrt{11}$

14. $(\sqrt[3]{7} - \sqrt[3]{5})((\sqrt[3]{7})^2 + \sqrt[3]{7} \cdot \sqrt[3]{5} + (\sqrt[3]{5})^2) =$
Use $(x - y)(x^2 + xy + y^2) = x^3 - y^3$ with $x = \sqrt[3]{7}$, $y = \sqrt[3]{5}$.
Product $= (\sqrt[3]{7})^3 - (\sqrt[3]{5})^3 = 7 - 5 = 2$

Ans: (C) 2

15. $\sqrt{224}$ in simplest form is
 $\sqrt{224} = \sqrt{16 \times 14} = 4\sqrt{14}$

Ans: (A) $4\sqrt{14}$

16. $(\sqrt{6})^3 =$
 $(\sqrt{6})^3 = (\sqrt{6})^2 \times \sqrt{6} = 6\sqrt{6}$

Ans: (C) $6\sqrt{6}$

17. $(6 - \sqrt{3})^2 =$
 $(6 - \sqrt{3})^2 = 6^2 + (\sqrt{3})^2 - 2(6)(\sqrt{3}) = 39 - 12\sqrt{3}$

Ans: (C) $39 - 12\sqrt{3}$

18. $(10 + 5\sqrt{2})(10 - 5\sqrt{2}) =$
 $(a + b)(a - b) = a^2 - b^2$
 $= 10^2 - (5\sqrt{2})^2 = 100 - 50 = 50$

Ans: (A) 50

19. $\frac{1}{9-\sqrt{3}} =$

Multiply above and below by $9 + \sqrt{3}$: $(9 - \sqrt{3})(9 + \sqrt{3}) = 81 - 3 = 78$

$$= \frac{9+\sqrt{3}}{78}$$

Ans: (D) $\frac{9+\sqrt{3}}{78}$

20. If $\frac{4+2\sqrt{3}}{4-2\sqrt{3}} = a + b\sqrt{3}$, then $a + b =$

$$\frac{4+2\sqrt{3}}{4-2\sqrt{3}} = \frac{(4+2\sqrt{3})(4+2\sqrt{3})}{(4-2\sqrt{3})(4+2\sqrt{3})}$$

$$\text{Numerator: } 16 + 8\sqrt{3} + 8\sqrt{3} + 12 = 28 + 16\sqrt{3}$$

$$\text{Denominator: } 4^2 - (2\sqrt{3})^2 = 16 - 12 = 4$$

$$\frac{28+16\sqrt{3}}{4} = 7 + 4\sqrt{3}$$

So $a = 7, b = 4$

Ans: (D) 11

21. $\frac{\sqrt{11}+\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{11}-\sqrt{6}} + \frac{\sqrt{11}-\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{11}+\sqrt{6}} =$

$$= \frac{(\sqrt{11}+\sqrt{6})^2 + (\sqrt{11}-\sqrt{6})^2}{(\sqrt{11}+\sqrt{6})(\sqrt{11}-\sqrt{6})} = \frac{34}{5}$$

The $\sqrt{66}$ terms cancel and $(\sqrt{11} + \sqrt{6})(\sqrt{11} - \sqrt{6}) = 11 - 6 = 5$.

Ans: (C) $\frac{34}{5}$

22. $\frac{1}{6+\sqrt{5}} + \frac{1}{6-\sqrt{5}} =$

$$= \frac{(6-\sqrt{5})+(6+\sqrt{5})}{(6+\sqrt{5})(6-\sqrt{5})} = \frac{12}{31}$$

Ans: (A) $\frac{12}{31}$

23. If $x = \sqrt[3]{13 - 2\sqrt{42}}$, then $x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3} =$

$$x^3 = 13 - 2\sqrt{42}, \text{ so } \frac{1}{x^3} = \frac{1}{13-2\sqrt{42}} = 13 + 2\sqrt{42}$$

$$x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3} = (13 - 2\sqrt{42}) + (13 + 2\sqrt{42}) = 26$$

Ans: (C) 26

24. $\sqrt{14 - 2\sqrt{45}} =$

$$\sqrt{14 - 2\sqrt{45}} = \sqrt{9 + 5 - 2\sqrt{9 \times 5}}$$

$$= \sqrt{(3)^2 + (\sqrt{5})^2 - 2(3)(\sqrt{5})}$$

$$= \sqrt{(3 - \sqrt{5})^2} = 3 - \sqrt{5}$$

Ans: (D) $3 - \sqrt{5}$

25. $\sqrt{10 + \sqrt{99}} =$

$$\sqrt{10 + \sqrt{99}} = \sqrt{\frac{2(10+\sqrt{99})}{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{20+2\sqrt{99}}}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{11+9+2\sqrt{11 \times 9}}}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{(\sqrt{11})^2 + (3)^2 + 2(\sqrt{11})(3)}}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{(\sqrt{11}+3)^2}}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{11}+3}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Ans: (B) $\frac{\sqrt{11}+3}{\sqrt{2}}$
