

Name: _____

Date: _____

Math 9 Enriched: Section 4.5 Factoring Difference and Sums of Powers

Difference of squares: $a^2 - b^2 = (a + b)(a - b)$

Difference and Sums of Cubes: $a^3 + b^3 = (a + b)(a^2 - ab + b^2)$ $a^3 - b^3 = (a - b)(a^2 + ab + b^2)$

Difference of Powers: $a^n - b^n = (a - b)(a^{n-1} + a^{n-2}b + \dots + ab^{n-2} + b^{n-1})$

Difference of Sums: $a^{2n+1} + b^{2n+1} = (a + b)(a^{2n} - a^{2n-1}b + a^{2n-2}b^2 - \dots - ab^{2n-1} + b^{2n})$

1. Factor each and simplify the following expressions completely:

a) $x^6 - 64$	b) $9^3 - a^6 x^6$
c) $81 - (3a + 2)^4$	d) $\frac{1000 + 27x^3}{100 - 9x^2}$
e) $\frac{a^3 - 27b^3}{a^2 - 9b^2}$	f) $y^6 + 16y^3 + 15$
g) $x^6 - 7x^3 - 8$	h) $8y^6 - 9y^3 + 1$
i) $x^6 - 26x^3 - 27$	j) $27y^6 + 35y^3 + 8$

2. Factor completely: $-a^2b^2 + 2ab^3 - b^4 + a^2c^2 - 2abc^2 + b^2c^2$

3. Factor completely with integral coefficients: $x^{12} - y^{12}$

4. Factor and simplify the expression as much as possible: $\left(\frac{a^3-1}{a^2-1}\right)\left(\frac{a^2+2a+1}{a^3+1}\right)\left(\frac{a^2-a+1}{a+1}\right)$

5. When $x^9 - x$ is factored as completely as possible into polynomials and monomials with integral coefficients, how many factors are there?

6. If $x + y = 4$ and $xy = 2$, then find $x^6 + y^6$

7. Find the value of $x^6 + \frac{1}{x^6}$ if the value of $x + \frac{1}{x} = 3$.

8. If $a + b = 1$, $a^2 + b^2 = 2$, find the value of $a^4 + b^4$

9. If $\frac{1}{a+c} = \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{c}$, find the value of $\left(\frac{a}{c}\right)^3$.

10. Find the sum of $\frac{1}{3+2\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{7}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{7}+\sqrt{6}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}+\sqrt{5}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}+2} + \frac{1}{2+\sqrt{3}}$.

11. Challenge: Find the sum of: $\frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{1}+\sqrt[3]{2}+\sqrt[3]{4}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{4}+\sqrt[3]{6}+\sqrt[3]{9}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{9}+\sqrt[3]{12}+\sqrt[3]{16}}$

12. Challenge: March 2009 (Adler). Show that $n^{n-1} - 1$ is divisible by $(n-1)^2$ for every positive integer "n".

13. (Challenge) Let "x" and "y" be two-digit integers such that "y" is obtained by reversing the digits of "x". The integers "x" and "y" satisfy $x^2 - y^2 = m^2$ for some positive integer "m". What is the value of $x + y + m$?