Precalculus 1 (Algebra)

Appendix A. Review A.1. Algebra Essentials—Exercises, Examples, Proofs



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Page A11 Numbers 12, 14, 18, 22. Let the universal set be $U = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$ and let $A = \{1, 3, 4, 5, 9\}$, $B = \{2, 4, 6, 7, 8\}$, and $C = \{1, 3, 4, 6\}$. Find **(12)** $A \cup C$, **(14)** $A \cap C$, **(18)** $\overline{C} = C^c$, and **(22)** $\overline{B} \cap \overline{C} = B^c \cap C^c$.

Solution. (12) By definition, the union of two sets is the set consisting of elements that belong to either set (or both sets). So

$$A \cup C = \{1, 3, 4, 5, 9\} \cup \{1, 3, 4, 6\} = \left\{1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9\}\right\}.$$

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(14) By definition, the intersection of two sets is the set consisting of elements that belong to both sets. So $A \cap C = \{1, 3, 4, 5, 9\} \cap \{1, 3, 4, 6\} = \left\lceil \{1, 3, 4\} \right\rceil$.

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$$A \cup C = \{1, 3, 4, 5, 9\} \cup \{1, 3, 4, 6\} = \lfloor \{1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9\} \rfloor.$$

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$$A \cap C = \{1, 3, 4, 5, 9\} \cap \{1, 3, 4, 6\} = \lfloor \{1, 3, 4\} \rfloor.$$

(18) By definition, the complement of a set is the set consisting of all elements in the universal set that are not in the given set. So $\overline{C} = C^c = \{0, 2, 5, 7, 8, 9\}.$

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(22) Similar to (18), we have $\overline{B} = B^c = \{0, 1, 3, 5, 9\}$. So $\overline{B} \cap \overline{C} = B^c \cap C^c = \{0, 1, 3, 5, 9\} \cap \{0, 2, 5, 7, 8, 9\} = \overline{\{0, 5, 9\}}.$

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(22) Similar to (18), we have $\overline{B} = B^c = \{0, 1, 3, 5, 9\}$. So $\overline{B} \cap \overline{C} = B^c \cap C^c = \{0, 1, 3, 5, 9\} \cap \{0, 2, 5, 7, 8, 9\} = \left[\{0, 5, 9\}\right].$

Page A11 Numbers 42 and 44. Graph the numbers x on the real number line which satisfy (42) $x \ge -2$, and (44) (modified) x < 7.

Solution. (42) To graph all x where $x \ge -2$, we graph x = -2 with a solid disk and shade the real number line to the right of -2:

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Page A11 Numbers 46, 48, and 50. Use the given real number line to compute each distance: **(46)** d(C, A), **(48)** d(C, E), and **(50)** d(D, B).



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Solution. First, the coordinate of *A* is $x_A = -3$, the coordinate of *B* is $x_B = -1$, the coordinate of *C* is $x_C = 0$, the coordinate of *D* is $x_D = 1$, and the coordinate of *E* is $x_E = 3$. So by the definition of the distance between two points on the real number line in terms of coordinates, we have the following.

(46) $d(C,A) = |x_A - x_C| = |(-3) - (0)| = |-3| = 3$.

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Page A11 Numbers 52 and 54, Page A12 numbers 64 and 68. Evaluate each expression if x = -2 and y = 3: (52) 3x + y, (54) -2x + xy, (64) |y|/y, and (68) 3|x| + 2|y|.

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Solution. We substitute the given values for *x* and *y*.

(52) 3x + y = 3(-2) + (3) = -6 + 3 = |-3|.

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$$3x + y = 3(-2) + (3) = -6 + 3 = -3$$
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(54) -2x + xy = -2(-2) + (-2)(3) = 4 - 6 = -2.

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(68) $3|x| + 2|y| = 3|(-2)| + 2|(3)| = 3(2) + 2(3) = 6 + 6 = 12$.

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Page A12 Number 74. Determine which of the values (a) x = 3, (b) x = 1, (c) x = 0, (d) x = -1, is in the domain of variable x in the expression $\frac{x^3}{x^2 - 1}$.

Solution. Since the expression involves division, we must avoid division by 0 by Note A.1.D.

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Notice that for
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, $\frac{x^3}{x^2 - 1} = \frac{(3)^3}{(3)^2 - 1} = \frac{27}{8}$ and so $x = 3$ is in the domain of the expression.

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Notice that for x = 1, $x^2 - 1 = (1)^2 - 1 = 1 - 1 = 0$ and since the expression $x^2 - 1$ is in the denominator of the given expression, then x = 1 would produce division by 0 in the given expression so that x = 1 is not in the domain of the given expression.

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Solution (continued). Notice that for x = 0, $\frac{x^3}{x^2 - 1} = \frac{(0)^3}{(0)^2 - 1} = \frac{0}{-1} = 0 \text{ and so } x = 0 \text{ is in the domain of the expression.}$

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So of the given values, x = 3 and x = 0 are in the domain of the expression.

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So of the given values, x = 3 and x = 0 are in the domain of the expression.

Page A12 Number 80. Determine the domain of the variable x in the expression $\frac{x-2}{x-6}$.

Solution. As observed in Note A.1.D, at this stage the algebraic manipulations which must be avoided are division by 0 and square roots of negatives. In the given expression, there are no square roots but there is division.

Page A12 Number 80. Determine the domain of the variable x in the expression $\frac{x-2}{x-6}$.

Solution. As observed in Note A.1.D, at this stage the algebraic manipulations which must be avoided are division by 0 and square roots of negatives. In the given expression, there are no square roots but there is division. So we find the "bad" value(s) of x by setting the denominator of the expression equal to 0: x - 6 = 0 or x = 6. So the domain of x is all real numbers except for 6.

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$$(-4x^{2})^{-1} = (-4)^{-1}(x^{2})^{-1} = \frac{1}{-4}x^{(2)(-1)} = \frac{1}{-4}x^{-2} = \frac{1}{-4}\frac{1}{x^{2}} = \left|\frac{1}{-4x^{2}}\right|.$$

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(92) $(2^{-1})^{-3} = 2^{(-1)(-3)} = 2^3 = 2 \times 2 \times 2 = 8$.
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$$(-4x^2)^{-1} = (-4)^{-1}(x^2)^{-1} = \frac{1}{-4}x^{(2)(-1)} = \frac{1}{-4}x^{-2} = \frac{1}{-4}\frac{1}{x^2} = \boxed{\frac{1}{-4x^2}}.$$