

GRE Algebra Practice Paper 1

1. Find an algebraic expression to represent each of the following.
  - (a) The square of  $y$  is subtracted from 5, and the result is multiplied by 37.
  - (b) Three times  $x$  is squared, and the result is divided by 7.
  - (c) The product of  $(x + 4)$  and  $y$  is added to 18.
  
2. Simplify each of the following algebraic expressions.
  - (a)  $3x^2 - 6 + x + 11 - x^2 + 5x$
  - (b)  $3(5x - 1) - x + 4$
  - (c)  $\frac{x^2 - 16}{x - 4}$ , where  $x \neq 4$
  - (d)  $(2x + 5)(3x - 1)$

3.

(a) What is the value of  $f(x) = 3x^2 - 7x + 23$  when  $x = -2$ ?

(b) What is the value of  $h(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 + x - 2$   
when  $x = 2$ ?

(c) What is the value of  $k(x) = \frac{5}{3}x - 7$  when  $x = 0$ ?

4. If the function  $g$  is defined for all nonzero numbers  $y$  by

$g(y) = \frac{y}{|y|}$ , find the value of each of the following.

(a)  $g(2)$

(b)  $g(-2)$

(c)  $g(2) - g(-2)$

5. Use the rules of exponents to simplify the following.

(a)  $(n^5)(n^{-3})$

(b)  $(s^7)(t^7)$

(c)  $\frac{r^{12}}{r^4}$

(d)  $\left(\frac{2a}{b}\right)^5$

(e)  $(w^5)^{-3}$

(f)  $(5^0)(d^3)$

(g)  $\frac{(x^{10})(y^{-1})}{(x^{-5})(y^5)}$

(h)  $\left(\frac{3x}{y}\right)^2 \div \left(\frac{1}{y}\right)^5$

6. Solve each of the following equations for  $x$ .

(a)  $5x - 7 = 28$

(b)  $12 - 5x = x + 30$

(c)  $5(x + 2) = 1 - 3x$

(d)  $(x + 6)(2x - 1) = 0$

(e)  $x^2 + 5x - 14 = 0$

(f)  $x^2 - x - 1 = 0$

7. Solve each of the following systems of equations for  $x$  and  $y$ .

(a)  $x + y = 24$   
 $x - y = 18$

(b)  $3x - y = -5$   
 $x + 2y = 3$

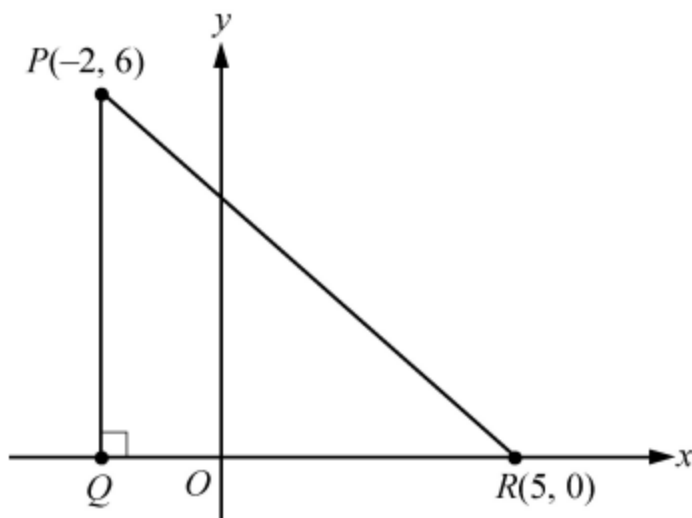
(c)  $15x - 18 - 2y = -3x + y$   
 $10x + 7y + 20 = 4x + 2$

8. Solve each of the following inequalities for  $x$ .
- (a)  $-3x > 7 + x$
  - (b)  $25x + 16 \geq 10 - x$
  - (c)  $16 + x > 8x - 12$
9. For a given two-digit positive integer, the tens digit is 5 more than the units digit. The sum of the digits is 11. Find the integer.
10. If the ratio of  $2x$  to  $5y$  is 3 to 4, what is the ratio of  $x$  to  $y$ ?
11. Kathleen's weekly salary was increased by 8 percent to \$237.60. What was her weekly salary before the increase?
12. A theater sells children's tickets for half the adult ticket price. If 5 adult tickets and 8 children's tickets cost a total of \$27, what is the cost of an adult ticket?

13. Pat invested a total of \$3,000. Part of the money was invested in a money market account that paid 10 percent simple annual interest, and the remainder of the money was invested in a fund that paid 8 percent simple annual interest. If the interest earned at the end of the first year from these investments was \$256, how much did Pat invest at 10 percent and how much at 8 percent?
14. Two cars started from the same point and traveled on a straight course in opposite directions for exactly 2 hours, at which time they were 208 miles apart. If one car traveled, on average, 8 miles per hour faster than the other car, what was the average speed of each car for the 2-hour trip?
15. A group can charter a particular aircraft at a fixed total cost. If 36 people charter the aircraft rather than 40 people, then the cost per person is greater by \$12.
- (a) What is the fixed total cost to charter the aircraft?
- (b) What is the cost per person if 40 people charter the aircraft?
16. An antiques dealer bought  $c$  antique chairs for a total of  $x$  dollars. The dealer sold each chair for  $y$  dollars.
- (a) Write an algebraic expression for the profit,  $P$ , earned from buying and selling the chairs.
- (b) Write an algebraic expression for the profit per chair.

17. In the coordinate system in Algebra Figure 16 below, find the following.

- (a) Coordinates of point  $Q$
- (b) Lengths of  $PQ$ ,  $QR$ , and  $PR$
- (c) Perimeter of  $\triangle PQR$
- (d) Area of  $\triangle PQR$
- (e) Slope,  $y$ -intercept, and equation of the line passing through points  $P$  and  $R$



18. In the  $xy$ -plane, find the following.
- (a) Slope and  $y$ -intercept of the line with equation  $2y + x = 6$
  - (b) Equation of the line passing through the point  $(3, 2)$  with  $y$ -intercept 1
  - (c) The  $y$ -intercept of a line with slope 3 that passes through the point  $(-2, 1)$
  - (d) The  $x$ -intercepts of the graphs in (a), (b), and (c)
19. For the parabola  $y = x^2 - 4x - 12$  in the  $xy$ -plane, find the following.
- (a) The  $x$ -intercepts
  - (b) The  $y$ -intercept
  - (c) Coordinates of the vertex



20. For the circle  $(x - 1)^2 + (y + 1)^2 = 20$  in the  $xy$ -plane, find the following.
- (a) Coordinates of the center
  - (b) Radius
  - (c) Area
21. For each of the following functions, give the domain and a description of the graph  $y = f(x)$  in the  $xy$ -plane, including its shape, and the  $x$ - and  $y$ -intercepts.
- (a)  $f(x) = -4$
  - (b)  $f(x) = 100 - 900x$
  - (c)  $f(x) = 5 - (x + 20)^2$
  - (d)  $f(x) = \sqrt{x + 2}$
  - (e)  $f(x) = x + |x|$