

Question	Points	Score
1	5	
2	15	
3	15	
4	5	
5	10	
Total:	50	

In order to receive full credit, you must **show all your work** and simplify your answers.

1. (5 points) Simplify the following complex fraction:

$$\frac{\frac{2}{x^2} - \frac{6}{x}}{4 + \frac{2}{x^2}} =$$

**Solution:** Method I:

$$\frac{\frac{2}{x^2} - \frac{6x}{x^2}}{\frac{4x^2}{x^2} + \frac{2}{x^2}} = \frac{\frac{2-6x}{x^2}}{\frac{4x^2+2}{x^2}} = \frac{2-6x}{x^2} \cdot \frac{x^2}{4x^2+2} = \frac{2-6x}{4x^2+2} = \frac{1-3x}{2x^2+1}$$

Method II, using the LCD of all individual terms  $x^2$ :

$$\frac{\frac{2}{x^2} - \frac{6}{x}}{4 + \frac{2}{x^2}} \cdot \frac{x^2}{x^2} = \frac{\frac{2x^2}{x^2} - \frac{6x^2}{x^2}}{4x^2 + \frac{2x^2}{x^2}} = \frac{2-6x}{4x^2+2} = \frac{1-3x}{2x^2+1}$$

2. (15 points) Perform the indicated operations on the complex numbers. Write the result in standard complex form, i.e., in the form  $a + bi$ .

(a)

$$(-2 - 3i) - (-7 + 5i)$$

**Solution:**

$$(-2 - 3i) - (-7 + 5i) = (-2 + 7) + (-3i - 5i) = 5 - 8i$$

(b)

$$(4 + 2i)(1 + i)$$

**Solution:**

$$(4 + 2i)(1 + i) = 4 + 4i + 2i + 2i^2 = 4 + 6i - 2 = 2 + 6i$$

(c)

$$(-2 - 3i)(-7 - 5i)$$

**Solution:**

$$(-2 - 3i)(-7 - 5i) = 14 + 10i + 21i + 15i^2 = 14 + 31i - 15 = -1 + 31i$$

(d)

$$\frac{5}{3 + i}$$

**Solution:**

$$\frac{5}{3 + i} \times \frac{3 - i}{3 - i} = \frac{15 - 5i}{9 + 3i - 3i - i^2} = \frac{15 - 5i}{9 - (-1)} = \frac{15 - 5i}{10} = \frac{15}{10} - \frac{5i}{10} = \frac{3}{2} - \frac{1}{2}i$$

(e)

$$\frac{1 + 8i}{1 - 2i}$$

**Solution:**

$$\frac{1 + 8i}{1 - 2i} \times \frac{1 + 2i}{1 + 2i} = \frac{1 + 2i + 8i + (8i)(2i)}{1 + 2i - 2i - 4i^2} = \frac{1 + 10i - 16}{1 + 4} = \frac{-15 + 10i}{5} = \frac{-15}{5} + \frac{10i}{5} = -3 + 2i$$

Check:  $(-3 + 2i)(1 - 2i) = -3 - 3(-2i) + 2i - 4i^2 = -3 + 6i + 2i + 4 = 1 + 8i \checkmark$

3. (15 points) Use the quadratic formula to solve for  $x$ . Simplify the solutions completely.

(a)

$$2x^2 + 8x + 10 = 0$$

**Solution:**

Applying the quadratic formula with  $a = 2, b = 8, c = 10$ :

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{-8 \pm \sqrt{8^2 - 4(2)(10)}}{2(2)} = \frac{-8 \pm \sqrt{64 - 80}}{4} = \frac{-8 \pm \sqrt{-16}}{4} = -\frac{8}{4} \pm \frac{4i}{4} = -2 \pm i$$

(b)

$$x^2 + 6x + 2 = 0$$

**Solution:**

Applying the quadratic formula with  $a = 1, b = 6, c = 2$ :

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{6^2 - 4(1)(2)}}{2(1)} = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{28}}{2} = \frac{-6 \pm 2\sqrt{7}}{2} = -3 \pm \sqrt{7}$$

(c)

$$3x^2 - 5x + 2 = 0$$

**Solution:**

Applying the quadratic formula with  $a = 3, b = -5, c = 2$ :

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{-(-5) \pm \sqrt{(-5)^2 - 4(3)(2)}}{2(3)} = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{25 - 24}}{6} = \frac{5 \pm 1}{6}$$

so the solutions are  $x = \frac{6}{6} = 1$  and  $x = \frac{4}{6} = \frac{2}{3}$ .

4. (5 points) Solve the following equation (the same equation as in #2(b)!)

$$x^2 + 6x + 2 = 0$$

by completing the square and using the square root property:

- (a) First, separate the constant term from the variable terms (i.e., move the constant term from the LHS to the RHS):

$$\textbf{Solution: } x^2 + 6x = -2$$

- (b) Now complete the square on the LHS, i.e., compute the number that will make the LHS into a perfect square trinomial, and add it to both sides of the equation:

$$x^2 + 6x + \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad} + \underline{\quad}$$

$$\textbf{Solution: } x^2 + 6x + 9 = -2 + 9$$

- (c) Simplify the equation by factoring the perfect square trinomial on the LHS, and adding the numbers on the RHS:

$$\textbf{Solution: } (x + 3)^2 = 7$$

- (d) Now take the square root of both sides, remembering the square root property (i.e., there are two square roots to consider on the RHS, the positive and the negative!):

$$\textbf{Solution: } x + 3 = \pm\sqrt{7}$$

- (e) Finally, solve for  $x$ :

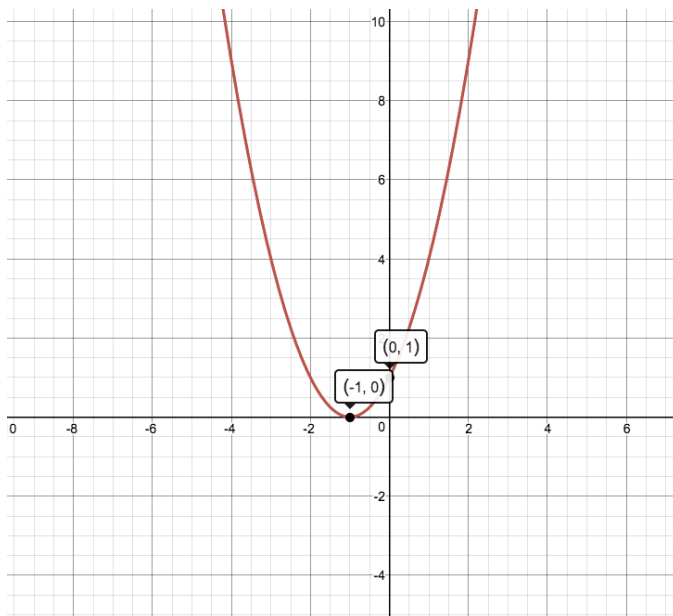
$$\textbf{Solution: } x = -3 \pm \sqrt{7}$$

5. (10 points) Identify the vertex and  $y$ -intercept for each parabola, and then sketch the graph.

(a)

$$y = (x + 1)^2$$

**Solution:** Since  $y = (x + 1)^2$ , the graph consists of  $y = x^2$  shifted to the left one unit, and hence the vertex is  $(-1, 0)$ . Also note that the  $y$ -intercept is  $(0, 1)$  (since  $y = 0^2 + 2(0) + 1 = 1$  when  $x = 0$ ).



(b)

$$y = x^2 + 6x + 2$$

**Solution:** We find the vertex by completing the square on  $x^2 + 6x$ :

$$y = (x^2 + 6x + 9) + 2 - 9 = (x + 3)^2 - 7$$

so the vertex is  $(-3, -7)$ . The  $y$ -intercept is  $(0, 2)$ . Also useful for graphing are the  $x$ -intercepts, which from #2(b) are at  $x = -3 + \sqrt{7} \approx -3 + 2.65 = -0.35$  and  $x = -3 - \sqrt{7} \approx -3 - 2.65 = -5.65$ .

