

KEY

No Calculator

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Top 20 ACT Prep Version 3

1. Simplify $1\frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{7}$ [39]
 $1\frac{1}{2} \rightarrow \frac{3}{2}$
 $\frac{3}{2} + \frac{2}{7} \rightarrow \frac{3(7)}{2(7)} + \frac{2(2)}{2(7)} \rightarrow \frac{21+4}{14} \rightarrow \frac{25}{14}$

2. Solve $6x^2 - 10x - 4 = 0$ [85]
 $2(3x^2 - 5x - 2) = 0$ $3x+1=0$ $x-2=0$
 $3x^2 - 6x + 1x - 2 = 0$ $3x = -1$ $x = 2$
 $3x(x-2) + 1(x-2) = 0$ $x = -\frac{1}{3}$ $x = 2$
 $(3x+1)(x-2) = 0$

3. Find the midpoint given (1,4) & (3,8) [218]
 $\frac{\Delta y}{2} = \frac{8-4}{2} = \frac{4}{2} = 2$
 $\frac{\Delta x}{2} = \frac{3-1}{2} = \frac{2}{2} = 1$ **Midpoint = (2,6)**

$x + \Delta x = 2$; $y + \Delta y = 6$

4. Solve $A = \frac{1}{2}b \cdot h$ for b [205]
 $\frac{1}{2}b = \frac{A}{h}$

$b = \frac{2A}{h}$

5. Simplify $\frac{15x^3y}{25x^2y}$ [74]
 $\frac{3(5)x^3y}{5(5)x^2y} \rightarrow \frac{3x^7}{5}$

6. Simplify $(3a + 7n)^2$ [221]
 $(3a + 7n)(3a + 7n)$
 $9a^2 + 21an + 21an + 49n^2$
 $9a^2 + 42an + 49n^2$

7. Simplify $\frac{8}{7} \cdot \frac{7}{8}$ [50]
 $\frac{1}{8} \cdot \frac{7}{7}$
 $\rightarrow \frac{1}{8} \cdot \frac{7}{7} = \frac{7}{16}$

8. Simplify (PEMDAS) $-1(x+5)^2 + 3$ [212]
 $-1(x+5)(x+5) + 3$
 $-1(x^2 + 5x + 5x + 25) + 3$
 $-x^2 - 10x - 25 + 3 \rightarrow -x^2 - 10x - 22$

9. Clear fractions, solve $\frac{3}{7}a + 2 = \frac{1}{3}$ [207]
 $\frac{3}{7}a = \frac{1}{3} - 2$
 $\frac{3}{7}a = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{6}{3}$
 $\frac{3}{7}a = -\frac{5}{3}$
 $3a = -\frac{35}{3}$
 $a = -\frac{35}{9}$

10. Simplify $(3a^3b^2)^2 \cdot 2(a^1b^2)$ [206]
 $(3^2 a^{(3 \cdot 2)} b^{(2 \cdot 2)}) \cdot 2a^1b^2$
 $9a^6b^4 \cdot 2a^1b^2$
 $18a^7b^6$

11. Simplify $\frac{2 \pm \sqrt{32}}{2}$ [214]
 $\frac{2 \pm \sqrt{32}}{2} = \frac{2 \pm 4\sqrt{2}}{2}$
 $1 \pm 2\sqrt{2}$

12. Multiply $(x^2 + 2x - 3)(x - 5)$ [59]
 $x^3 - 5x^2 + 2x^2 - 10x - 3x + 15$
 $x^3 - 3x^2 - 13x + 15$

13. Solve $(x+4)^2 = 15$ [84]
 $\sqrt{(x+4)^2} = \sqrt{15}$
 $x+4 = \sqrt{15}$
 $x = -4 + \sqrt{15}$

14. Simplify $\frac{2x^2 + 10x + 12}{x^2 - 4}$ [209]
 $\frac{2(x^2 + 5x + 6)}{(x+2)(x-2)} \rightarrow \frac{2(x+3)(x+2)}{(x+2)(x-2)} \rightarrow \frac{2(x+3)}{(x-2)}$

15. Given $f(x) = -x^2 - 3x - 2$, find $f(-1)$ [110]
 $f(-1) = -(-1)^2 - 3(-1) - 2$
 $= -1 + 3 - 2$
 $f(-1) = 0$

16. Write an equation using (-1,8) & (-2,-1) [210]
 $m = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{8 - (-1)}{-1 - (-2)} = 9$
 $y = mx + b$
 $-1 - 9(-2) + b = 8$
 $b = 17$
 $y = 9x + 17$
 $y - 8 = 9(x + 1)$

17. Simplify $\frac{2}{9} \cdot \frac{1}{6}$ [42]
 $\frac{2(1)}{9} \cdot \frac{1}{2(3)} \rightarrow \frac{1}{27}$

18. Find the distance between (2,10) & (6,1) [217]
 $d = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$
 $d = \sqrt{(6-2)^2 + (1-10)^2} = \sqrt{4^2 + 9^2} = \sqrt{97}$

19. Find 3 points on $f(x) = x^2 - 3x + 1$ [7]
many possibilities
 for ex) $f(0) = 1 \therefore (0, 1)$
 $f(1) = -1 \therefore (1, -1)$
 $f(2) = -1 \therefore (2, -1)$

X	Y

20. Solve. Show 3+ steps of work [89]
 $-(2x+2) - 2(x-3) = 9x+1$
 $-2x-2-2x+6 = 9x+1$
 $-4x+4 = 9x+1$
 $3 = 13x$
 $x = \frac{3}{13}$

