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## ABSTRACT

This third of six guidebooks on minimum course content for first-year algebra includes work with laws of exponents: multiplication, division, and factoring of polynomials; and fundamental operations with rational algebrair expressions. Course goals are stated, performance objectives listed, a course outline provided, testbook rerierences specified which are keyed to the course outline, and teaching icrategies suggested. Pretest and posttest items are includea, plus a list of three references. For other booklets in this series, see ED 067 296, ED 067 283، ED 06? 284, SE 016 5C4, and SE 016 505. (DT)

QUINMLSTLIR MATIU:MATICS
COURSE OF SIUDY
FOR
ALGEBRA $1 r$
5215.13
(Experimental)

Written by
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for the
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## PREFACE

The following course of study has been designed to set a minimum standard for student performance after exposure to the material described and to specify sources. which can be the basis for the planning of daily activities by the teacher. There has been no attempt to prescribe teaching strategies; those strategies listed are merely suggestions which have proved successful at some time for some class.

The course sequence is suggested as a guide; an individual teacher should feel free to rearrange the sequence whenever other alternatives seem more desirable. Since the course content represents a minimum, a teacher should feel free to add to the content specified.

Any corments and/or suggestions which will help to improve the existing curriculum will be appreciated. Please cirect your remarks to the Consultant for Mathematics.

All courses of study have been edited by a subcommittee of the Mathematics Advisory Committee.

## CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION


#### Abstract

A continuation of work with polynomials and the development of ability to work with rational expressions. Includes work with negative exponents; multiplication, division, and factcring of polynomials; and fundamental oqerations with rational algebraic expressions.

Designed for the student who has mastered the skills and concepts of Algebra $1 q$.


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1. To develop further skills in working with polynomials.
2. To apply the skills of factoring in performing operations with rational expressions.
3. To apply the laws of exporients to integral exponents.
4. To use algebraic skills in solving verbal problems.

KEY TO REFERENCES
(* State Adispted)

* D - Dolciani, Mary; Wooten, Willian; Beckenbach, Edwin; Jurgensen, Ray; and Donnelly, Alfred. Mc̈dern School Mathematics, Algebra 1. New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1967.

N - Nichols, Eugene D. Modern Elementary Aigebra. New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 1961.

* PL - Payne, Joseph; Zamboni, Floyd; and Lankford, Francis. Algebra One. New York: Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich, 1969.
* PA - Pearson, Henen R. and Allen, Frank B.. Modern Algebra: A Logical Approach, Book One. Boston: Ginn and Co., 1964.

1 - The number in the block preceeding an objective indicates the number of the state assessment standard to which the objective is related.
I. Polynomials

The student will
8 1. Apply the laws of exponents in multiplying two or more monomials with integral exponents.

8 2. Apply the laws of exponents in raising to a power a monomial with integral exponents.

8 3. Apply the laws of exponents in simplifying a rational expression whose numerator and denominator are monomials with integral exponents.

5 4. Find the following products mentally:
a. t.e product of the sum and difference of two terms b. the square of a binamial
c. the product of two binomials

9 5. F'actor:
a. the difference of two squares
b. a perfect square trinomial
c. trinomials of the form $x^{2}+b x+c$
d. trinomials of the form $a x^{2}+b x+c, a \neq, o$
e. a.given polynomial using one or more of the above methods

5 6. Find the quotient of a polynomial and a binamial.
II. Rational Algebraic Expressions

The student will

1. Evaluate a rational expression for a given value of the variable.
2. Determine the restrictions on the variable for a given rational expression.
3. Reduce a rational expression to lowest terms.
4. Determine whether or not two rational expressions are equivalent.
5. Multiply rational expressions.
6. Divide rational expressions.
7. Find the LCM of two or more polynomials.
8. Add and subtract rational expressions with like and unlike denaminators.
9. Solve open sentences involving rational algebraic expressions.

RELATED OBJECTIVES
I.
II.
I. Laws of Exponents
A. Product of powers
B. Quotients of powers
C. Dowers of powers
II. Polynomials
A. Products of binomials

1. $(a x+b)(c x+d)$
2. $(a x \pm b)^{2}$
3. $(a+b)(a x-b)$
4. Other products
B. Factoring
5. Binomials
a. Monomial factors
b. Difference of two squares
6. Perfect square trinomial
7. Other trinomials
C. Quotients of polynomials
8. Long divisiori
9. Simplifying by factoring
III. Rational Algebraic Expressions
A. Rational Expressions
10. Definition of rational expressions
11. Evaluating rational expressions
12. Determining the restrictions on variables
13. Reducing to lowest terms
14. Equivalent rational expressions
B. Operations with Rational Expressions
15. Multiplication and division
16. Addition and subtraction
C. Solving open sentences containing rational algebraic expressions

TEXTBOOK REFERENCES

| Course Dutline | D | N | PL | Fis |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| I. | $\begin{aligned} & 267-270 \\ & 310-313 \\ & 324-326 \end{aligned}$ | 312-324 | 257-270 | 340-350 |
| II. | 272-292 | 351-361 | 313-339 | 366-368 |
| III. | $\begin{aligned} & 328-338 \\ & 350-353 \end{aligned}$ | 152-161 | Entire <br> Chapter 9 386-409 | 397-406 |
|  | 120-130 | 211-251 | 130-141 | 251-255 |

SUGGESTED STRATEGIES
(Keyed to Course Outline)
I.

1. Point out the difference between the expressions $-x^{2}$ and $(-x)^{2}$. Show that $-x^{2} \neq x^{2}$, unless $x=0$.
2. Work with powers that have numerals as bases: For example, $24 \cdot 25$. Students tend to multiply the bases tegether, $2^{4} \cdot 2^{5}=4^{9}$. Show the correct multiplication by returning to the definition $x^{m} \cdot x^{n}=x^{m}+n$ and giving $x$ the value of 2 and $m$ an $n$ the values 4 and 5 . $\left(24^{4} \cdot 25=2^{9}\right.$.)
3. Provide students with many drills on the operations with powers.
II.
4. Demonstrate the following methods of multiplying polynomials:
A. Foil Method (first, outer, inner and last tems)
B. Distributive property
C. Vertical multiplication
5. Use colored pen or chalk to indicate how the middle term is computed when showing horizontal multiplication of binomials.
6. Show that the pattern for common monomial factoring is based on a direct application of the distributive law. Exampie, $5 \mathrm{r}_{1}+10=5(\mathrm{n}+2)$.
7. Have the student recognize a binomial such as $25 y^{2}-9$ in terms of (5y) ${ }^{2}$ - (3) ${ }^{2}$ so that the idea of the difference of two squares will be more meaningful.
8. Compare the division algorithm for long division of numbers to one that's aigebraic. This should facilitate the understanding of long lonf, division of polynomials: For example:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 275 \div 25 \Rightarrow 20+5 \begin{array}{l}
\frac{10+1}{200+70+5} \\
\frac{200+50}{20}+5 \\
\underline{20+5}
\end{array} \\
& 2 x^{2}+3 x-20 \div x+4 \Rightarrow
\end{aligned} \begin{aligned}
& \text { ( } \begin{array}{l}
\frac{2 x-5}{2 x^{2}+3 x-20} \\
\frac{2 x^{2}+8 x}{-5 x}-20 \\
-5 x-20
\end{array}
\end{aligned}
$$

1. Point out that in defining a rational expression, variables in the denominator cannot be replaced by numbers that nake the denominator equal to zero.
2. Reduction of rational expressions should be emphasized as the numerator and denominator being divided by the same non-zero polynomial such that an equal expression is obtained in lower terms.
3. Provide many exercises on the concept of reduction of rational expressions, pointing out that rational expressions are in simplest form only when both polynamials of the rational expression have no common factors other than 1 or -1 .
4. Use colored chalk or pen to distinguish common errors made in simplifying algebraic expressions, in terms of students crossing out like terms without factoring. Re-emphasize Equivalent Expressions!
5. Provide the student with many exercises or finding the LCD before the addition and subtraction of rational expressions are introduced.
6. Students should be urged to read and re-read problems carefully and try to organize a detailed plan for solving the problem.
7. Have students formulate the plan ky using variable(s), and writing a mathematical model for such (equation).
8. Finally, a check is necessary in the original problem to make sure all the conditions are satisfied and that the answer is reasonable.
9. The teacher's working out most problems with the students makes for a better attitude toward verbal problems.
I. Perform the indicated operations. lixpress all answers in simplest form.
10. $\mathrm{x}^{3} \cdot \mathrm{x}^{2}=$
11. $\left(x^{2}\right)^{3}=$
12. $\left(x^{-2}\right)=$
13. $x^{3} \div x^{4}=$
14. $\mathrm{x}^{0}=$
15. $(3 z-b)(3 a+b)=$
16. $(3 a-b)^{2}=$
17. $(3 a-b)(4 a+2 b)=$
18. $(3 x-2)\left(x^{2}-2 x+3\right)=$
19. $\left(x^{2}-2 x+1\right) \div(x+1)=$
20. $\frac{2}{3} x \cdot \frac{4}{9} \mathrm{x}^{2}=$
21. $\frac{x-2}{x^{2}-4}=$
22. $\frac{3}{(2 x-4)}+\frac{2}{(x-2)}=$
23. $\frac{x}{\mathrm{x}^{2}}-\frac{1}{\mathrm{x}}=$
24. $\frac{3}{4} x=-8, x=$
25. $\left(m^{2} n^{3}\right)^{5}=$
26. Factor; $x^{2}-y^{2}$
27. $3 x^{4}-2 x^{3}-5 x^{2}$.
28. $x^{2}-12 x+35$
29. $16 x^{2}+8 x y-y^{2}$
II. Solve the following verbal problems.
30. Mary is three times as old as her brother John. Four years from now Mary will be twice as old as John. How old is each of them now?
31. Four added to five times a number gives a result of 24 . Find the number.

## KEY TO PRETEST

I.

1. $x^{5}$
2. $x^{6}$
3. $\frac{1}{x^{2}}$
4. $\frac{1}{\mathrm{x}}$
5. 1
6. $9 a^{2}-b^{2}$
7. $9 a^{2}-6 a b+b^{2}$
8. $12 a^{2}+2 a b-2 b^{2}$
9. $3 x^{3}-8 x^{2}+13 x-6$
10. $x-3+\frac{4}{x+1}$
11. $\frac{8}{27} x^{3}$
12. $\frac{1}{x+2}$
13. $\frac{7}{2(x-2)}$
14. 0
15. $-\frac{32}{3}$
16. $m^{10} 15$
17. $(x+y)(x-y)$
18. $x^{2}(3 x-5)(x+7)$
19. $(x-7)(x-5)$
20. $(4 x+y)^{2}$
21. 
22. Mary 12; John 4
23. 4
I. 1. Simplify each expression.
a. $\cdot x^{2} \cdot x^{3} \cdot x$
b. $-x^{-2} \cdot x^{14}$
c. $x^{3}(-3 x)$
d. $\left(-y^{4}\right)\left(-y^{3}\right)\left(y^{-7}\right)$
e. $\left(\frac{1}{2} x^{3}\right)\left(\frac{2}{3} x^{2}\right)$
24. Simplify each expression.
a. $x^{0} \cdot\left(x^{2}\right)^{2}$
b. $\left(x^{-4}\right)^{3}$
c. $(2 a \text { क })^{2}$
d. $\frac{1}{4}\left(m^{2} n^{-3}\right)^{3}$
e. $\left(x^{2} y^{-3}\right)^{-4}$
25. Divide
a. $2^{3} \div 2$
b. $\left(x^{3} y^{2}\right) \div(x y)$
c. $y^{10} \div y^{-4}$
d. $-4^{9} \div 4^{9}$
e. $17 x^{6} \div 34 x$
26. Multiply.
a. $(5 a-2 b)(5 a+2 b)$
b. $(2 x-4)^{2}$
c. $(3 n+4)(2 n-5)$
d. $(a+4 d)^{2}$
e. $(7+2 a)(7-2 a)$
27. Factor each polynomial completely.
a. $25 x^{2}-121$
b. $a^{2}+14 a+49$
c. $12 a^{2}-3 y^{2}$
d. $6-11 a-10 a^{2}$
e. $12 x^{3}+10 x^{2} y-8 x y^{2}$
28. Simplify each expression.
a. $\left(x^{2}+4 x+4\right) \div(x+2)$
b. $\left(a^{2}-9\right) \div(a+3)$
c. $\left(2 x^{2}-x+2\right) \div(x-2)$
d. $\left(x^{3}+4 x^{2}-25 x+12\right) \div(x-3)$
II. 1. Evaluate each expression for the values given.
a. $\frac{a^{2}-b}{a+b} \quad a=2, b=1$
b. $\frac{2 x^{2}-x y}{y^{2}+4} \quad x=-2, y=2$
c. $\frac{3 b-3 a}{4 a^{5}} \quad a=-1, b=\frac{1}{2}$
29. Indicate the excluded values of the variable for each expression.
a. $\frac{4}{\mathrm{x}+2}$
b. $\frac{x-1}{x^{2}-4}$
c. $\frac{x^{2}-5}{x^{2}+x-6}$
30. Write each expression in simplest form.
a. $\frac{x^{2}-16}{3 x+12}$
b. $\frac{y^{2}+y-12}{12-4 y}$
c. $\frac{2 a^{2}-8 b^{2}}{4 a^{2}-2 a b-12 b^{2}}$
31. State whether the pairs of expressions are equivalent or not.
a. $\frac{5 b^{2} c}{2 b}, \frac{10 b^{2} c^{2}}{c}$
b. $\frac{2 a^{2}}{3 a}, \frac{4 a^{2}}{6 a}$
c. $\frac{x+2}{x}, \frac{y+2}{y}$
32. Multiply. Express the answer in simplest form.
a. $\frac{8 a^{4}}{b^{3}} \cdot \frac{b^{2}}{14 a^{2}}$
b. $\frac{4 x}{x^{2}-4} \cdot \frac{6 x+12}{18 x^{2}}$
c. $\frac{x^{2}-y^{2}}{x^{2}-4 y^{2}} \cdot \frac{4 x-8 y}{3 x^{2}+3 x y-6 y^{2}}$
33. Divide. Express the answer in simplest form.
a. $\frac{2 x y^{2}}{3 b^{2}} \div \frac{8 x^{3} y}{9 b^{3}}$
b. $\frac{2 x-2}{x^{2}-9} \div \frac{4 x-4}{x+3}$
c. $\frac{x^{3}-5 x^{2}-6 x}{3 x^{2}+9 x+6} \div \frac{2 x^{2}-14 x+12}{x^{2}+x-2}$
34. Find the LCM of each pair of polynomials.
a. $(x+1),\left(x^{2}-1\right)$
b. $3 a b^{2}, 2 a^{2}$
c. $\left(x^{2}-2 x+1\right),\left(4 x^{2}-4\right)$
35. Perform the indicated operations.
a. $\frac{b a-7}{2 a}-\frac{4 a-1}{2 a}$
b. $5+\frac{2 x}{x-1}$

$$
\text { c. } \frac{3}{y-3}+\frac{2 y}{y^{2}-9}
$$

9. lind the solution set of each equation.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { i. } \frac{x}{3}+2=5 \\
& \text { b. } \frac{5}{y}-\frac{19}{2 y}=3 \\
& \text { c. } \frac{x+1}{x-1}=\frac{x-4}{x+2}
\end{aligned}
$$



## KEY TO POSTTEST

I.

1. a. $\mathrm{x}^{6}$
b. $-x^{12}$
c. $-3 x^{4}$
d. 1
e. $\frac{1}{3} x^{5}$
2. a. $x^{4}$
b. $x^{-12}$
c. $4 a^{4} b^{2}$
d. $\frac{1}{4} m^{6} n^{-9}$
e. $x^{-8} y^{12}$
3. a. 4
b. $x^{2} y$
c. $y^{14}$
d. -1
4. $\frac{x^{5}}{2}$
5. a. $25 a^{2}-4 b^{2}$
b. $4 x^{2}-16 x+16$
c. $6 n^{2}-7 n-20$
d. $a^{2}+8 a d+16 d^{2}$
e. $49-4 a^{2}$
6. a. $(5 x+11)(5 x-11)$
b. $(a+7)^{2}$
c. $3(2 a+y)(2 a-y)$
d. $(2-5 a)(3+2 a)$
e. $2 x(2 x-y)(3 x+4 y)$
7. a. $x+2$
b. a-3
c. $2 x+3+\frac{8}{x-2}$
d. $x^{2}+7 x-4$
II. 1. a. 1
b. $\frac{3}{2}$
C. $\frac{-9}{8}$
8. a. $x \neq-2$
b. $x \neq \pm 2$
c. $x \neq 2,-3$
9. a. $\frac{x-4}{3}$
b. $\frac{-(y+4)}{4}$
c. $\frac{a+2 b}{2 a+3}$
10. a. Not equivalent
b. Equivalent
c. Not equivalent
11. a. $\frac{4 \mathrm{a}^{2}}{7 \mathrm{~b}}$
b. $\frac{4}{3 x(x-2)}$
c. $\frac{4(x+y)}{3(x+2 y)^{2}}$
12. a. $\frac{3 b y}{4 x^{2}}$
b. $\frac{1}{2(x-3)}$
c. $\frac{x}{6}$
13. a. $\left(x^{2}-1\right)$
b. $6 a^{2} b^{2}$
c. $4(x+1)(x-1)^{2}$
14. a. $\frac{a-6}{2 a}$
b. $\frac{7 x-5}{x-1}$
c. $\frac{5 y+9}{y^{2}-9}$
15. a. $\{9\}$
b. $\left\{-\frac{3}{2}\right\}$
c. $\left\{\frac{1}{4}\right\}$

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