



## RATIONAL EXPRESSIONS

## Answers

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{1} \quad &= \frac{6}{(x+3)(x-3)} - \frac{7}{(2x+1)(x-3)} \\ &= \frac{6(2x+1) - 7(x+3)}{(x+3)(x-3)(2x+1)} = \frac{5x-15}{(x+3)(x-3)(2x+1)} \\ &= \frac{5(x-3)}{(x+3)(x-3)(2x+1)} = \frac{5}{(x+3)(2x+1)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{3} \quad \mathbf{a} \quad &= \frac{1}{x-6} - \frac{2}{(x+6)(x-6)} = \frac{(x+6)-2}{(x-6)(x+6)} \\ &= \frac{x+4}{(x-6)(x+6)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{b} \quad &\frac{x+4}{(x-6)(x+6)} = \frac{1}{2} \\ &2(x+4) = x^2 - 36 \\ &x^2 - 2x - 44 = 0 \\ &x = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{4+176}}{2} = \frac{2 \pm 6\sqrt{5}}{2} = 1 \pm 3\sqrt{5} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{2} \quad f(x) &= \frac{3}{2x+3} - \frac{x+9}{(2x+3)(x+4)} \\ &= \frac{3(x+4)-(x+9)}{(2x+3)(x+4)} \\ &= \frac{2x+3}{(2x+3)(x+4)} = \frac{1}{x+4} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{4} \quad \mathbf{a} \quad f(5) &= 250 - 125 - 115 - 10 = 0 \\ &\therefore (x-5) \text{ is a factor of } f(x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 + 5x + 2 \\ x-5 \overline{)2x^3 - 5x^2 - 23x - 10} \\ \underline{2x^3 - 10x^2} \\ \underline{\underline{5x^2 - 23x}} \\ \underline{\underline{5x^2 - 25x}} \\ \underline{\underline{2x - 10}} \\ \underline{\underline{2x - 10}} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\therefore f(x) = (x-5)(2x^2 + 5x + 2) \\ &= (x-5)(2x+1)(x+2) \\ &\therefore \frac{f(x)}{2x^2 - 9x - 5} = \frac{(x-5)(2x+1)(x+2)}{(2x+1)(x-5)} \\ &= x+2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{5} \quad &\frac{x+6}{(x+3)(x+6)} + \frac{x-p}{x+7} = 0 \\ &(x+7) + (x-p)(x+3) = 0 \\ &x^2 + (4-p)x + 7 - 3p = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{real, equal roots } \therefore b^2 - 4ac = 0 \\ &(4-p)^2 - 4(7-3p) = 0 \\ &p^2 + 4p - 12 = 0 \\ &(p+6)(p-2) = 0 \\ &p = -6, 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{6} \quad &\frac{1}{3x-1} - \frac{3x}{(3x-1)^2} - \frac{1}{x(3x-1)} \\ &= \frac{x(3x-1) - 3x^2 - (3x-1)}{x(3x-1)^2} \\ &= \frac{1-4x}{x(3x-1)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{7} \quad \mathbf{a} \quad \mathbf{i} \quad &= \frac{7(x+2)}{(2+x)(2-x)} = \frac{7}{2-x} \\ \mathbf{ii} \quad &= \frac{(2x-7)(x+4)}{3x(x+4)} = \frac{2x-7}{3x} \\ \mathbf{b} \quad &\frac{7}{2-x} = \frac{2x-7}{3x} \\ &21x = (2-x)(2x-7) \\ &x^2 + 5x + 7 = 0 \\ &b^2 - 4ac = 25 - 28 = -3 \\ &b^2 - 4ac < 0 \therefore \text{no real roots} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{8} \quad \mathbf{a} \quad &\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{t-2} = \frac{4}{t^2 - 2t} - \frac{1}{2} \\ &\therefore \frac{4}{t^2 - 2t} + \frac{1}{t-2} = 1 \\ \mathbf{b} \quad &\frac{4}{t(t-2)} + \frac{1}{t-2} = 1 \\ &4+t = t^2 - 2t \\ &t^2 - 3t - 4 = 0 \\ &(t+1)(t-4) = 0 \\ &t = -1, 4 \\ &\text{but if } t = 4, \text{ common difference} = 0 \\ &\therefore t = -1, \text{ first term} = -\frac{1}{3} \end{aligned}$$