



# A Level Maths

## Topic: Laws of Indices and Surds

### Instructions

Answer all questions. Show complete working. Apply the laws of indices and surds wherever appropriate.

### Practice Questions

1. Simplify the following expressions using the laws of indices:

(i)  $x^5 \times x^3$

(ii)  $\frac{y^7}{y^4}$

(iii)  $(a^2)^3$

(iv)  $\frac{4x^6}{2x^2}$

2. Express the following in terms of positive indices:

(i)  $\frac{1}{x^{-3}}$

(ii)  $\frac{y^4}{y^{-2}}$

(iii)  $x^{\frac{1}{2}} \times x^{\frac{1}{3}}$

3. Simplify the following surds:

(i)  $\sqrt{50}$

(ii)  $\sqrt{72} + \sqrt{18}$

(iii)  $\frac{\sqrt{8}}{\sqrt{2}}$

(iv)  $\sqrt{5} \times \sqrt{20}$

4. Solve the following using the laws of indices:

(i)  $(3^4) \times (3^2)$

(ii)  $\frac{2^7}{2^3}$

(iii)  $(4^2)^3$

(iv)  $(2^3) \times (2^{-5})$

5. Simplify the following expressions involving surds:

(i)  $\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{5}}$

(ii)  $\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{12}$

(iii)  $\sqrt{a} \times \sqrt{b}$

6. Given that  $\sqrt{x} = 5$ , find the value of  $x$ .

7. Express  $\sqrt{8}$  in its simplest form.

8. Simplify the expression  $\frac{\sqrt{27}}{\sqrt{3}}$ .

9. Solve  $x^2 = 49$  using the laws of indices.

## Multiple-Choice Questions

1. Simplify the expression  $\frac{a^5}{a^2}$ :

A.  $a^3$

B.  $a^7$

C.  $a^{10}$

D.  $a^2$

2. Which of the following is equivalent to  $\sqrt{18}$ ?

A.  $3\sqrt{2}$

B.  $2\sqrt{3}$

C.  $3\sqrt{3}$

D.  $4\sqrt{2}$

3. The value of  $\sqrt{7} \times \sqrt{49}$  is:

A. 7

B. 49

C.  $7\sqrt{7}$

D. 14

4. If  $x = 4$ , what is the value of  $x^{\frac{3}{2}}$ ?

A. 8

B. 16

C. 4

D. 64

5. Which of the following is the correct simplification of  $\frac{3}{\sqrt{5}}$ ?

A.  $\frac{3\sqrt{5}}{5}$

B.  $\frac{3}{5}$

C.  $\frac{5\sqrt{3}}{5}$

D.  $\frac{3}{\sqrt{5}}$

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