

Simplifying Polynomials

4.2

- To simplify a polynomial is to collect like terms.
- To collect like terms is the same as to combine like terms.

Like terms have
Same letter and exponents
or
Constant terms

Task 1: In each row, circle terms that are like.

$-x^2$	$-5x$	$0.89x^2$	$-x^3$	-10^2	y^2	$9x^2$
6	-0.67	$\frac{3^2}{5} = \frac{9}{5}$	$-ab$	-10^x	$6y^2$	$-6x^2$
ab	$-3a$	$7ab^2$	$-ab$	$-25ba$	$8abc$	$9ac^2$
$-x^2yz^5$	$6x^2z^5y$	$0.5yx^2$	$-x^2$	$10x^2yz^5$	y^2z^5x	$9zy^5x^2$

Task 2: Simplify by collecting like terms.

$\underline{2x} + \underline{24} - \underline{13x} - \underline{10}$ $= \underline{2x - 13x} + \underline{24 - 10}$ $= -11x + 14$	$\underline{-2x^3} + \underline{24x} - \underline{3x} + \underline{10x^3} + \underline{8}$ $= \underline{-2x^3 + 10x^3} + \underline{24x - 3x} + \underline{8}$ $= 8x^3 + 21x + 8$
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$$\underline{-1a} + \underline{2b} + \underline{5b} - \underline{4} + \underline{20a} + \underline{1}$$

$$\underline{-1a + 20a} + \underline{2b + 5b} - \underline{4 + 1}$$

$$19a + 7b - 3$$

$$\underline{0.6y} + \underline{2.4} - \underline{3.2y} - \underline{2.4y} + \underline{1.3}$$

$$\underline{0.6y - 3.2y - 2.4y} + \underline{2.4 + 1.3}$$

$$-5y + 3.7$$

Evaluating Polynomials

- To evaluate a polynomial means to substitute a given value for the variable and carry out the operations following BEDMAS rules.
- **Collect like terms before substituting!**

Examples: Evaluate the given polynomial if $x = 3$ and $y = 4$

a) $\underline{2x^2} - \underline{y} + \underline{3x} + \underline{y^2} + \underline{5x^2} + \underline{5x} - \underline{y}$

$$\underline{2x^2 + 5x^2} + \underline{1y^2} + \underline{3x + 5x} - \underline{1y - 1y}$$

$$7x^2 + 1y^2 + 8x - 2y$$

Now substitute!!

$$= 7(3)^2 + 4^2 + 8(3) - 2(4)$$

$$= 7(9) + 16 + 24 - 8$$

$$63 + 16 + 24 - 8 \rightarrow 95$$

$$x=3 \\ y=4$$

$$b) \underline{-x^2 - 3y - 4x + 5x^2 - 8x^2 + 5y - y}$$

$$= \underline{-1x^2 + 5x^2 - 8x^2} \underline{-4x} \underline{-3y + 5y - 1y}$$

$$= -4x^2 - 4x + 1y$$

$$= -4(3)^2 - 4(3) + 1(4)$$

$$= -4(9) - 12 + 4$$

$$= -36 - 12 + 4$$

$$\boxed{= -44}$$

$$c) \underline{21 - 5y + 3y^2 + 6 + 5y^2 + 5 - 3y}$$

$$= \underline{3y^2 + 5y^2} \underline{-5y - 3y} \underline{+21 + 6 + 5}$$

$$= 8y^2 - 8y + 32$$

$$= 8(4)^2 - 8(4) + 32$$

$$= 8(16) - 32 + 32$$

$$= 128 - 32 + 32$$

$$\boxed{= 128}$$

