



THIRD SPACE
LEARNING

GCSE Exam Questions

Expand & Simplify | Algebra

GCSE Exam Questions: Expand & Simplify

1) Expand and simplify

(a) $-2(y + 3)$

(2)

(b) $3(x - 2) + 2(x + 5)$

(2)

(c) $(2y - 3)(y + 2)$

(2)
(6 marks)

2) Expand and simplify

(a) $(5 - x)^2$

(2)

(b) $5x(3x - 4) - 2x(2x - 3)$

(3)
(5 marks)

GCSE Exam Questions: Expand & Simplify

3) Expand and simplify

(a) $3(2x - 4y) + 4(x - 5y)$

(2)

(b) $(x - 2)^2 (2x + 1)$

(3)

(5 marks)

4) (a) Expand $\sqrt{3} (4 - 2\sqrt{3})$

(2)

(b) Expand and simplify
 $(\sqrt{3} - \sqrt{5})(\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{5})$

(3)

(5 marks)

GCSE Exam Questions: Expand & Simplify Answers

	Question	Answer	Marks
1)	Expand and simplify:		
(a)	$2(y + 3)$	$2y \pm 6$ $2y - 6$	(1) (1)
(b)	$3(x - 2) + 2(x + 5)$	$3x - 6 + 2x + 10$ $5x + 4$	(1) (1)
(c)	$(2y - 3)(y + 2)$	$2y^2 - 3y + 4y - 6$ $2y^2 + y - 6$	(1) (1)
2)	Expand and simplify:		
(a)	$(5 - x)^2$	$25 - 5x - 5x + x^2$ $x^2 - 10x + 25$	(1) (1)
(b)	$5x(3x - 4) - 2x(2x - 3)$	$15x^2 - 20x$ $4x^2 + 6x$ or $-(4x^2 - 6x)$ $11x^2 - 14x$	(1) (1) (1)
3)	Expand and simplify:		
(a)	$3(2x - 4y) + 4(x - 5y)$	$6x - 12y + 4x - 20y$ $10x - 32y$	(1) (1)
(b)	$(x - 2)^2 (2x + 1)$	$x^2 - 4x + 4$ $2x^3 - 8x^2 + 8x + x^2 - 4x + 4$ $2x^3 - 7x^2 + 4x + 4$	(1) (1) (1)
4)			
(a)	Expand: $\sqrt{3}(4 - 2\sqrt{3})$	$2 \times \sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3} = 2 \times 3 = 6$ $4\sqrt{3} - 6$	(1) (1)
(b)	Expand and simplify: $(\sqrt{3} - \sqrt{5})(\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{5})$	$\sqrt{9} + \sqrt{15} - \sqrt{15} - \sqrt{25}$ $\sqrt{9} = 3$ and $\sqrt{25} = 5$ $- 2$	(1) (1) (1)

Where to go next?

For more diagnostic questions, and GCSE maths revision resources and worksheets to support students in fixing any misconceptions take a look at the free Third Space Learning [GCSE maths revision](#) pages.

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