



THIRD SPACE
LEARNING

GCSE Exam Questions

Multiplying and Dividing Surds
| Number

GCSE Exam Questions: Multiplying and Dividing Surds

1) (a) Simplify fully: $\sqrt{8} \times \sqrt{5}$

(2)

(a) Simplify fully: $\frac{\sqrt{20}}{\sqrt{5}}$

(2)

(4 marks)

2) Work out the value of $(\sqrt{5})^2 \times (\sqrt{3})^2$.

(2 marks)

3) Expand and simplify: $(6 - 3\sqrt{2})(5 + 2\sqrt{2})$.

(3 marks)

4) $\sqrt{3}(\sqrt{6} + \sqrt{24})$ can be written in the form $a\sqrt{2}$.

Find the value of a .

(3 marks)

5) Show that $(10 - \sqrt{5})(2 + 4\sqrt{5})$ can be written in the form $a\sqrt{5}$,
where a is an integer to be found.

(3 marks)

6) Show that $(2\sqrt{8} + \sqrt{50})^2$ simplifies to an integer.

(3 marks)

GCSE Exam Questions: Multiplying and Dividing Surds Answers

	Question	Answer	Marks
1) (a)	Simplify fully: $\sqrt{8} \times \sqrt{5}$	(a) $\sqrt{8} \times \sqrt{5} = \sqrt{40}$	(1)
		$\sqrt{40} = 2\sqrt{10}$	(1)
		or	
		$\sqrt{8} = 2\sqrt{2}$	(1)
		$2\sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{5} = 2\sqrt{10}$	(1)
(b)	Simplify fully: $\frac{\sqrt{20}}{\sqrt{5}}$	(b) $\sqrt{20} \div \sqrt{5} = \sqrt{4}$	(1)
		$\sqrt{4} = 2$	(1)
		or	
		$\sqrt{20} = 2\sqrt{5}$	(1)
		$2\sqrt{5} \div \sqrt{5} = 2$	(1)
2)	Work out the value of $(\sqrt{5})^2 \times (\sqrt{3})^2$	$(\sqrt{5})^2 = 5$ or $(\sqrt{3})^2 = 3$	(1)
		15	(1)
3)	Expand and simplify $(6 - 3\sqrt{2})(5 + 2\sqrt{2})$	$30 - 15\sqrt{2} + 12\sqrt{2} - 12$	(1)
		Any two correct terms	(1)
		All four correct terms	(1)
		Simplified to $18 - 3\sqrt{2}$	(1)
4)	$\sqrt{3}(\sqrt{6} + \sqrt{24})$ can be written in the form $a\sqrt{2}$. Find the value of a .	$\sqrt{24} = 2\sqrt{6}$	(1)
		$\sqrt{3} \times 3\sqrt{6} = 3\sqrt{18}$	(1)
		$3\sqrt{18} = 9\sqrt{2}$ so $a = 9$	(1)
5)	Show that $(10 - \sqrt{5})(2 + 4\sqrt{5})$ can be written in the form $a\sqrt{5}$, where a is an integer to be found.	$20 - 2\sqrt{5} + 40\sqrt{5} - 20$	(1)
		Any two correct terms	(1)
		All four correct terms	(1)
		$38\sqrt{5}$ so $a = 38$	(1)

6)

Show that $(2\sqrt{8} + \sqrt{50})^2$ simplifies to an integer.

$$\sqrt{50} = 5\sqrt{2} \text{ or } \sqrt{8} = 2\sqrt{2}$$
$$4\sqrt{2} + 5\sqrt{2} = 9\sqrt{2}$$
$$(9\sqrt{2})^2 = 162$$

or

$$32 + 2\sqrt{400} + 2\sqrt{400} + 50$$

Any two correct terms

All four correct terms

$$4\sqrt{400} = 4 \times 20 = 80$$
$$so\ 32 + 80 + 50 = 162$$

(1)

(1)

(1)

(1)

(1)

(1)

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