

Expanding triple brackets

Starter

1. (Review of last lesson)

Find the values of a , b and c that turn these statements into identities (i.e. true for all values of x):

(a) $ax^2 + bx + c \equiv (x + 3)^2$ (b) $(ax + b)(x - 2) \equiv 2x^2 + cx - 10$

Working:

(a) $ax^2 + bx + c \equiv (x + 3)^2$

The RHS can be expanded to $x^2 + 6x + 9$

So $ax^2 + bx + c \equiv x^2 + 6x + 9$

Equating coefficients of x^2 : $a = 1$

Equating coefficients of x : $b = 6$

Equating the constant term: $c = 9$

(b) $(ax + b)(x - 2) \equiv 2x^2 + cx - 10$

Expand the LHS: $ax^2 - 2ax + bx - 2b = ax^2 + (b - 2a)x - 2b$

So $ax^2 + (b - 2a)x - 2b \equiv 2x^2 + cx - 10$

Equating coefficients of x^2 : $a = 2$

Equating coefficients of x : $b - 2a = c$

Equating the constant term: $-2b = 10 \quad \therefore b = 5$

So $c = b - 2a = 5 - 2 \times 2 = 1$

$a = 2, b = 5$ and $c = 1$

2. (Review of last lesson)

Write the '=' or the ' \equiv ' symbol in the box to make each statement mathematically correct.

(a) $x^2 + 6x + 5 \square (x + 1)(x + 5)$

(b) $x^2 + 6x + 5 \square (x + 1)(x + 4)$

Working:

(a) $x^2 + 6x + 5 \square (x + 1)(x + 5)$

Expanding the RHS gives $x^2 + 5x + x + 5 = x^2 + 6x + 5$

Since the expression on the LHS is the same as the expression on the RHS, it is true for all values of x . Hence, we need the ' \equiv ' symbol.

(b) $x^2 + 6x + 5 \square (x + 1)(x + 4)$

Expanding the RHS gives $x^2 + 4x + x + 4 = x^2 + 5x + 4$

Since the expression on the LHS is **not** the same as the expression on the RHS, it is **not** true for all values of x . Hence, we need the '=' symbol.

3. (a) Expand and simplify $(x + 2)(x + 5)$.

(b) Hence expand and simplify $(x + 4)(x + 2)(x + 5)$.

Working:

(a) $(x + 2)(x + 5) = x^2 + 5x + 2x + 10 = x^2 + 7x + 10$

(b) $(x + 4)(x + 2)(x + 5) = (x + 4)(x^2 + 7x + 10)$
 $= x^3 + 7x^2 + 10x + 4x^2 + 28x + 40$
 $= x^3 + 11x^2 + 38x + 40$

E.g. 1 Expand and simplify:

(a) $(x + 1)(x + 3)(x + 4)$

(b) $(x - 1)(x + 2)(x + 4)$

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

(d) $(x - 2)(x + 5)^2$

(e) $(3x - 4)(x - 1)^2$

(f) $(x + 4)^3$

Working:

(a) $(x + 3)(x + 4) = x^2 + 4x + 3x + 12 = x^2 + 7x + 12$
 $\therefore (x + 1)(x + 3)(x + 4) = (x + 1)(x^2 + 7x + 12)$
 $= x^3 + 7x^2 + 12x + x^2 + 7x + 12$
 $= x^3 + 8x^2 + 19x + 12$

(b) $(x + 2)(x + 4) = x^2 + 4x + 2x + 8 = x^2 + 6x + 8$
 $\therefore (x - 1)(x + 2)(x + 4) = (x - 1)(x^2 + 6x + 8)$
 $= x^3 + 6x^2 + 8x - x^2 - 6x - 8$
 $= x^3 + 5x^2 + 2x - 8$

(c) $(x - 3)(x + 3) = x^2 + 3x - 3x - 9 = x^2 - 9$
 $\therefore (2x + 3)(x - 3)(x + 3) = (2x + 3)(x^2 - 9)$
 $= 2x^3 - 18x + 3x^2 - 27$
 $= 2x^3 + 3x^2 - 18x - 27$

(d) $(x + 5)^2 = x^2 + 10x + 25$
 $\therefore (x - 2)(x + 5)^2 = (x - 2)(x^2 + 10x + 25)$
 $= x^3 + 10x^2 + 25x - 2x^2 - 20x - 50$
 $= x^3 + 8x^2 + 5x - 50$

(e) $(x - 1)^2 = x^2 - 2x + 1$
 $\therefore (3x - 4)(x - 1)^2 = (3x - 4)(x^2 - 2x + 1)$
 $= 3x^3 - 6x^2 + 3x - 4x^2 + 8x - 4$
 $= 3x^3 - 10x^2 + 11x - 4$

(f) $(x + 4)^2 = x^2 + 8x + 16$
 $\therefore (x + 4)^3 = (x + 4)(x^2 + 8x + 16)$
 $= x^3 + 8x^2 + 16x + 4x^2 + 32x + 64$
 $= x^3 + 12x^2 + 48x + 64$

Video: [Expanding triple brackets](#)

[Solutions to Starter and E.g.s](#)

Exercise

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|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 9-1 class textbook: | p106 E4.1 Qu 1-8, 9-10*, 11-19, 20* |
| A*-G class textbook: | No exercise |
| 9-1 homework book: | p37 E4.1 Qu 1-10 |
| A*-G homework book: | No exercise |