

## Expected Algebra Questions for Railway Exams

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### ELEMENTARY ALGEBRA FOR RRB NTPC EXAMS

1) Find the sum of  $m + n$  if  $x + 2$  is factor of  $x^3 + mx^2 + nx + 6$  and  $mx + 6$

a) -5

b) 5

c) -8

d) 8

2) Find the factor of the polynomial:  $x^3 - 13x^2 + 24x - 12$ .

a)  $x^2 - 12x + 12$

b)  $x^2 - 14x + 48$

c)  $x^2 - 12x + 36$

d) None of the above

3) If  $16p^2 + 4q^2 + 9r^2 - 16pq + 12qr - 24pr = 0$  and  $p = -1$  then find the value of  $2q + 3r$

a) 3

b) -3

c) -4

d) 4

4) If  $4x^2 + 16y^2 + 12x + 24y + 18 = 0$  then find the value of  $x^3 - y^4$

a) -945/256

b) 945/256

c) -455/236

d) 455/236

5) If  $8a^3 + 125b^3 + 60a^2b + 150ab^2 = 0$  then find the value of  $a/b$

a) 5/2

b) 2/5

c) -5/2

d) -2/5

6) If  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = xy + yz + zx$  &  $x/y = z$ , then find the value of  $x^3 + y^3 + z^3$

a)  $3x^2$

b)  $-2y^2$

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c) 0

d) 1

**7) The sum and product of two numbers is 54 and 713. Find the difference between those two numbers.**

a) 8

b) 6

c) 7

d) 9

**8) If  $x + y + z = 21$  then the maximum value of  $(x - 6)(y + 7)(z - 4)$  is**

a) 343

b) 216

c) 125

d) Can't be determined

**9) If  $x^2 + 1/x^2 = 7$  then find the value of  $x^3 + 1/x^3$  ( $x > 0$ )**

a) 15

b) 14

c) 18

d) 16

**10) If  $x - \sqrt{x} = 132$  then find the value of  $x$**

a) 144

b) 196

c) 169

d) 121

**11) Find the value of  $(5.29 + 3.24 + 8.28)/(5.29 - 3.24)$**

a) 6.8

b) 7.8

c) 7.6

d) 8.2

**12) If  $a = 208$ ,  $b = 312$  and  $c = 405$  then find the value of  $a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 3abc/(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca)$**

a) 725

b) 1

c) 625

d) 925

**13) If  $(y - x)/(y + x) = 2$ , then find the value of  $y$  in terms of  $x$**

a)  $-2x$

b)  $2x$

c)  $-3x$

d) None of the above

**14) If  $x = 9 - 4\sqrt{5}$  then find the value of  $\sqrt{x+1}/\sqrt{x}$**

a) 1

b)  $2\sqrt{5}$

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c)  $3\sqrt{5}$

d)  $4\sqrt{5}$

**15) If  $p + q + 2 = 0$  then find the value of  $p^3 + q^3 + 8 - 6pq$**

a) 24

b) 36

c) 0

d) 42

**16) If  $xy = 0$  and  $x/y = 1/2$ , then find the value of  $(x^3 + y^3)/(x^2 + y^2)$**

a) 0

b)  $3x$

c) 1

d)  $3y$

**17) If  $x + 4/x = 4$ , then find the value of  $x^5 + 1/x^3$**

a)  $257/8$

b)  $235/8$

c)  $247/7$

d)  $247/6$

**18) If the roots of the quadratic equation  $3x^2 - 6x + p = 0$  are real and equal then find the value of p.**

a) 4

b) 3

c) 2

d) 8

**19) If  $(a + b - c)^2 = 16(a - c) + (b + c - a)^2$  then find the value of b**

a) 8

b) 16

c) 12

d) 4

**20) Find the quadratic equation whose roots are  $1/p$  and  $1/q$**

a)  $pqx^2 - (p + q)x + 1 = 0$

b)  $x^2 - (p + q)x + 1/pq = 0$

C)  $pqx^2 - (p + q)x + 1/pq = 0$

d) None of the above

**21) Find the sum of the factors of the equation  $2x^2 - 7x + 3 = 0$**

a) 7

b) -7

c)  $3x - 4$

d)  $2x - 6$

**22) If A and B are positive roots of quadratic equation and  $(A + B)^2 = 729$  and  $(A - B)^2 = 225$ , then find the quadratic equation whose roots are A and B**

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a)  $x^2 - 27x + 126$

b)  $x^2 - 24x + 144$

c)  $x^2 - 28x + 192$

d) None of the above

**23) If  $x + 1/x = \sqrt{3}$ , then find the value of  $x^6 + 1/x^{12}$**

a) 2

b) -2

c) 0

d)  $\sqrt{3}$

**24) If  $a + b + c + d = 2$  then find the maximum value of  $(ab + bc + cd + da)$**

a) 12

b) 1

c) -1

d) 14

**25) If  $x + (1/(x + 1)) = 1$ , then find the value of  $(x+1)^3 + 1/(x+1)^7$**

a) 57/13

b) 54/15

c) 2

d) 0

**26) If  $p + (1/p) + 2 = 0$  then find the value of  $(p + 2)^2 + 1/(p + 2)^4$**

a) 12

b) -12

c) 2

d) -2

**27) If  $x - 1/x = 7$  then find the value of  $x^2 + 1/x^2$**

a) 51

b) 47

c) 0

d) 2

**28) If  $7p + 1/6p = \sqrt{5}$  then find the value of  $49p^2 + (1/36p^2) + 1$**

a) 11/3

b) 5

c) 13/3

d) 0

**29) If  $x + 1/4x = 6$  then find the value of  $16x^2 + 1/x^2$**

a) 124

b) 576

c) 568

d) 128

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**30) Solve:  $2^{16} - 255(2^8 + 1)$**

- a) 1
- b) -12234
- c) -2346s
- d) None of the above

**31) Solve:  $[(a - b)/(a + b)] - [(a + b)/(a - b)]$**

- a)  $4ab/(a^2 - b^2)$
- b) 0
- c)  $-4ab/(a^2 - b^2)$
- d)  $2(a^2 + b^2)/(a^2 - b^2)$

**32) Solve:  $[(\sqrt{6} + 1)/(\sqrt{6} - 1)] + [(\sqrt{6} - 1)/(\sqrt{6} + 1)]$**

- a) -12/5
- b) 12/5
- c) -14/5
- d) 14/5

**33) If  $x = (1 + \sqrt{2})/(1 - \sqrt{2})$  and  $y = (1 - \sqrt{2})/(1 + \sqrt{2})$  then find the value of  $x/y - y/x$**

- a)  $-24\sqrt{2}$
- b)  $24\sqrt{2}$
- c)  $12\sqrt{2}$
- d)  $-12\sqrt{2}$

**34) If  $a + b = 4$  and  $ab = 1$  then find the value of  $(a^2 + ab + b^2)/(a^2 - ab + b^2)$**

- a) -7/6
- b) 7/6
- c) -15/13
- d) 15/13

**35) If  $a^3 - b^3 = 26$  and  $(a + b)^2 = 13 + ab$ , then find the value of  $(a - b)$**

- a) 1
- b) 2
- c) -2
- d) 0

**36) If  $p = \sqrt{5} + (1/\sqrt{5})$  and  $q = \sqrt{5} - (1/\sqrt{5})$  then find the value of  $p^3 + q^3$**

- a)  $47/\sqrt{5}$
- b)  $46/\sqrt{5}$
- c)  $57/\sqrt{5}$
- d)  $56/\sqrt{5}$

**37) If  $a + b = -c$ , then find the value of  $a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 3abc$**

- a) 0
- b)  $6abc$

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- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>c) <math>-3abc</math></p> <p>d) <math>-1</math></p> <p><b>38) Simplify: <math>(x^2 + 8x + 16)/(x^2 + 6x + 8)</math></b></p> <p>a) <math>(x + 4)/(x + 3)</math></p> <p>b) <math>(x + 6)/(x + 3)</math></p> <p>c) <math>(x + 4)/(x + 2)</math></p> <p>d) None of the above</p> <p><b>39) If a and b are non-zero rational unequal numbers, then</b></p> <p><b><math>[(a - b)^2 - (a + b)^2]/a^2b - ab^2</math> is equal to</b></p> <p>a) <math>ab/(a - b)</math></p> <p>b) <math>-4/(a - b)</math></p> <p>c) 0</p> <p>d) <math>-1/(a - b)</math></p> <p><b>40) If <math>a + b + c = 10</math>, <math>a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 64</math> and <math>1/a + 1/b + 1/c = 2</math> then find the value of abc</b></p> <p>a) 6</p> <p>b) <math>ab + bc + ca</math></p> <p>c) abc</p> <p>d) 9</p> <p><b>41) If <math>a^4 - b^4 = 65</math> and <math>a^2 - b^2 = 5</math> then find the value of <math>a^2 + b^2</math></b></p> | <p>a) 12</p> <p>b) 15</p> <p>c) 0</p> <p>d) 13</p> <p><b>42) Find the remainder when <math>x^4 - 2x^3 + 3x^2 - 5x - 8</math> is divided by <math>x - 2</math></b></p> <p>a) 0</p> <p>b) -6</p> <p>c) 3</p> <p>d) -4</p> <p><b>43) If <math>x^2 - 3x - 1 = 0</math> then find the value of <math>x^3 - 1/x^3</math></b></p> <p>a) 36</p> <p>b) -18</p> <p>c) 18</p> <p>d) 0</p> <p><b>44) If <math>x + y = 12</math> and <math>xy = 11</math> then find <math>x^2 - y^2</math></b></p> <p>a) 64</p> <p>b) 56</p> <p>c) 110</p> <p>d) 120</p> <p><b>45) If <math>x - 1/x = 3</math> then find the value of <math>x^2 + 1/x^2</math></b></p> |
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a) 13

b) 15

c) 11

d) 14

**46) If  $x^2 + 1/x^2 = \sqrt{3}$ , then find the value of  $x^{36} + 1/x^{24}$**

a) 3

b) -1

c) 2

d) 0

**47) If  $x^3 = -1$  then find the value of  $x^{54} + x^{51}$**

a) 2

b) 0

c) -2

d) 4

**48) If  $a/b = 1 - b/a$  then find the value of  $a^3 + b^3$**

a) 0

b) ab

c)  $a + b$

d) -1

**49) If  $x = 11 + 6\sqrt{2}$ , then find the value of  $\sqrt{x} + 1/\sqrt{x}$**

a) 4

b)  $3 + 4\sqrt{2}$

c)  $(24 + 6\sqrt{2})/7$

d) 0

**50) If  $a(2 - \sqrt{3}) = b(2 + \sqrt{3}) = 1$  then find the value of  $1/a + 1/b$**

a) 5

b) 4

c) 0

d) -1

## ANSWERS

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### 1) Answer: D

Solution:

Consider the expressions as  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  respectively

$$f(x) = x^3 + mx^2 + nx + 6$$

$$\text{And, } g(x) = mx + 6$$

Since,  $x + 2$  is factor of  $x^3 + mx^2 + nx + 6$  and  $mx + 6$

$$f(x) = 0 \text{ and } g(x) = 0$$

Then for  $x = -2$ ,

$$f(-2) = (-2)^3 + m(-2)^2 + n(-2) + 6 = 0$$

$$4m - 2n = 2 \text{ --- (1)}$$

$$g(-2) = -2m + 6 = 0$$

$$m = 3$$

Put the value of  $m$  in (1)

$$(1) \Rightarrow 12 - 2n = 2$$

$$n = 5$$

$$m + n = 8$$

### 2) Answer: A

Solution:

$$= x^3 - 13x^2 + 24x - 12$$

$$= x^3 - x^2 - 12x^2 + 12x + 12x - 12$$

$$= x^2(x-1) - 12x(x-1) + 12(x-1)$$

$$= (x-1)(x^2 - 12x + 12)$$

Therefore,  $(x^2 - 12x + 12)$  is a factor of the given polynomial.

### 3) Answer: C

Solution:

$$16p^2 + 4q^2 + 9r^2 - 16pq + 12qr - 24pr = 0$$

Comparing the above expression with the algebraic identity

$$(a + b + c)^2 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 2(ab + bc + ca)$$

As terms containing  $p$  is negative then  $p$  is negative

$$(-4p)^2 + (2q)^2 + (3r)^2 + 2(-4p)(2q) + 2(2q)(3r) + 2(-4p)(3r) = 0$$

$$(-4p + 2q + 3r)^2 = 0$$

$$2q + 3r = 4p$$

Since  $p = -1$ ,

$$2q + 3r = -4$$

### 4) Answer: A

Solution:

$$4x^2 + 16y^2 + 12x + 24y + 18 = 0$$

$$4x^2 + 12x + 9 + 16y^2 + 24y + 9 = 0$$

$$(2x + 3)^2 + (4y + 3)^2 = 0$$

The above expression is 0 only when both terms are 0



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$$2x + 3 = 0;$$

$$4y + 3 = 0$$

$$X = -3/2, y = -3/4$$

$$x^3 = -27/8$$

$$y^4 = 81/256$$

$$x^3 - y^4 = -27/8 - 81/256$$

$$= (-864 - 81)/256 = -945/256$$

**5) Answer: C**

Solution:

$$8a^3 + 125b^3 + 60a^2b + 150ab^2 = 0$$

The above expression is of the form

$$a^3 + b^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 = (a + b)^3$$

$$(2a)^3 + (5b)^3 + 3(2a)^2(5b) + 3(2a)(5b)^2 = 0$$

$$(2a + 5b)^3 = 0$$

$$2a + 5b = 0$$

$$2a = -5b$$

$$a/b = -5/2$$

**6) Answer: A**

Solution:

$$\text{As, } x^3 + y^3 + z^3 - 3xyz = (x + y + z)(x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - xy - yz - zx) \text{ --- (1)}$$

$$\text{Given: } x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = xy + yz + zx$$

$$(1) \Rightarrow x^3 + y^3 + z^3 - 3xyz = 0$$

$$x^3 + y^3 + z^3 = 3xyz \text{ --- (2)}$$

$$\text{Since } x/y = z$$

$$(2) \Rightarrow x^3 + y^3 + z^3 = 3x^2$$

**7) Answer: A**

Solution:

The given question can be expressed in the form of quadratic equation

$$\text{As, } x^2 - (\text{sum of the terms}) + \text{product of the terms} = 0$$

$$x^2 - 54x + 713 = 0$$

Factors of the above expression will be the required numbers

On solving the above quadratic equation

$$x^2 - 31x - 23x + 713 = 0$$

$$x(x - 31) - 23(x - 31) = 0$$

$$x - 31 = 0; x - 23 = 0$$

The numbers are 23, 31

$$\text{Difference between the two number} = 31 - 23 = 8$$

**Alternative Method**

$$(x-y)^2 = x^2 + y^2 - 2xy$$

$$(x-y)^2 = x^2 + y^2 - 2xy + 2xy - 2xy$$

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$$(x-y)^2=(x+y)^2-4xy$$

$$(x-y)^2=54^2-4*713$$

$$(x-y)^2=2916-2852=64$$

$$x-y=8$$

**8) Answer: B**

Solution:

$(x-6)(y+7)(z-4)$  is maximum, only when  $(x-6) = (y+7) = (z-4)$

Let  $(x-6) = (y+7) = (z-4) = k$

$$X = k + 6$$

$$Y = k - 7$$

$$Z = k + 4$$

$$K + 6 + k - 7 + k + 4 = 21$$

$$3k + 3 = 21$$

$$k = 6$$

$$(x-6)(y+7)(z-4) = k^3 \text{ (since each term is equal to } k \text{)}$$

$$= 6^3 = 216$$

**9) Answer: C**

Solution:

$$x^2 + 1/x^2 = 7$$

$$x^2 + 1/x^2 + 2 = 7 + 2$$

$$(x + 1/x)^2 = 9$$

$$X + 1/x = 3 \text{ (As } x > 0, \text{ So } -3 \text{ is neglected)}$$

$$x^3 + 1/x^3 = (x + 1/x)^3 - 3(x)(1/x)(x + 1/x)$$

$$x^3 + 1/x^3 = 3^3 - 3(3) = 18$$

**10) Answer: A**

Solution:

$$X - \sqrt{x} = 132$$

$$X - 132 = \sqrt{x}$$

Squaring on both sides

$$x^2 - 264x + 17424 = x$$

$$x^2 - 265x + 17424 = 0$$

$$(x - 121)(x - 144) = 0$$

$$X = 121, 144$$

By applying the values of  $x$ ,

$$\text{For } x = 121$$

$$121 - 11 \neq 132$$

$$\text{For } x = 144$$

$$144 - 12 = 132$$

$$\text{So value of } x = 144$$

$$144 - \sqrt{144} = 132$$

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$$144-12=132$$

(or)

By applying the options, one can find the answer

**11) Answer: D**

Solution:

$$= (5.29+3.24+8.28)/(5.29-3.24)$$

Numerator and denominator is of the form  $(a^2+b^2+2ab)$  and  $(a^2-b^2)$  respectively

$$= (2.3^2+1.8^2+2(2.3*1.8))/(2.3^2-1.8^2)$$

$$= (2.3+1.8)^2/(2.3+1.8)(2.3-1.8)$$

$$= (2.3+1.8)/0.5$$

$$= 4.1/0.5 = 8.2$$

**12) Answer: D**

Solution:

$$= a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 3abc / (a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca)$$

$$\text{As, } a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 3abc = (a + b + c)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca)$$

$$= (a + b + c)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca) / (a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca)$$

$$= a + b + c$$

$$= 208 + 312 + 405 = 925$$

**13) Answer: C**

Solution:

$$(y - x)/(y + x) = 2/1$$

By componendo and dividendo method

$$2y/(-2x) = 3/(1)$$

$$-y/x = 3/1$$

$$Y = -3x$$

(or)

$$(y - x)/(y + x) = 2$$

$$Y - x = 2(y + x)$$

$$Y - x = 2y + 2x$$

$$-y = 3x$$

$$Y = -3x$$

**14) Answer: B**

Solution:

$$= \sqrt{x+1}/\sqrt{x}$$

Squaring the above expression

$$(\sqrt{x+1}/\sqrt{x})^2 = x+1/x + 2 \text{ ---(1)}$$

$$X = 9 - 4\sqrt{5}$$

$$1/x = 1/(9 - 4\sqrt{5})$$

My taking complex conjugate

$$1/x = (9+4\sqrt{5})/(81-80) = 9+4\sqrt{5}$$

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$$(1) \Rightarrow (\sqrt{x} + 1/\sqrt{x})^2 = 9 - 4\sqrt{5} + 9 + 4\sqrt{5} + 2 = 20$$

$$\sqrt{x} + 1/\sqrt{x} = \sqrt{20} = 2\sqrt{5}$$

### Another Method:

$$X = 9 - 4\sqrt{5} = 5 + 4 - 2(2)(\sqrt{5}) = (\sqrt{5})^2 + 2^2 - 2(2)(\sqrt{5})$$

The above expression is of the form,  $(a + b)^2 = a^2 + b^2 + 2ab$

$$(\sqrt{5})^2 + 2^2 - 2(2)(\sqrt{5}) = (2 + \sqrt{5})^2$$

$$\sqrt{x} = 2 + \sqrt{5}$$

$$1/\sqrt{x} = 1/2 + \sqrt{5}$$

Taking complex conjugate

$$1/\sqrt{x} = (2 - \sqrt{5}) / (2 + \sqrt{5})(2 - \sqrt{5}) = (2 - \sqrt{5}) / (-1)$$

$$\sqrt{x} + 1/\sqrt{x} = 2 + \sqrt{5} - 2 + \sqrt{5} = 2\sqrt{5}$$

### **15) Answer: C**

Solution:

This expression  $(p^3 + q^3 + 8 - 6pq)$  can be rewritten as,

$$= p^3 + q^3 + 2^3 - 3(2pq)$$

$$\text{If } a + b + c = 0, \text{ then } a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 3abc = 0$$

$$\text{Since, } p + q + 2 = 0 \text{ then } p^3 + q^3 + 8 - 6pq = 0$$

### **16) Answer: B**

Solution:

$$= (x^3 + y^3) / (x^2 + y^2)$$

$$= (x + y)(x^2 - xy + y^2) / (x^2 + y^2)$$

$$\text{Put } xy = 0$$

$$(x^3 + y^3) / (x^2 + y^2) = x + y \text{ --- (1)}$$

$$\text{Since, } y = 2x$$

$$(1) \Rightarrow (x^3 + y^3) / (x^2 + y^2) = 3x$$

### **17) Answer: A**

Solution:

$$X + 4/x = 4$$

$$x^2 - 4x + 4 = 0$$

$$(x - 2)^2 = 0$$

$$X = 2$$

$$x^5 + 1/x^3 = 2^5 + 1/2^3$$

$$= 32 + 1/8$$

$$= (256 + 1)/8$$

$$= 257/8$$

### **18) Answer: B**

Solution:

If the roots of the quadratic equation are real and equal then

$$b^2 - 4ac = 0 \text{ --- (1)}$$

$$\text{Then in the given quadratic equation } 3x^2 - 6x + p = 0$$

$$a = 3, b = -6, c = p$$

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$$(1) \Rightarrow (-6)^2 - 4(3)(p) = 0$$

$$36 - 12p = 0$$

$$P = 3$$

**19) Answer: D**

Solution:

$$(a + b - c)^2 = 16(b - c) + (b + c - a)^2$$

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 2ab - 2bc - 2ca = 16(b - c) + a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - 2ab + 2bc - 2ca$$

$$4b(a - c) = 16(a - c)$$

$$B = 4$$

**20) Answer: A**

Solution:

The general form of quadratic equation:

$$x^2 - (\text{sum of the roots})x + \text{product of the roots} = 0$$

$$x^2 - (1/p + 1/q)x + 1/pq = 0$$

$$x^2 - ((p + q)/pq)x + 1/pq = 0$$

$$pqx^2 - (p + q)x + 1 = 0 \text{ is the required equation}$$

**21) Answer: C**

Solution:

$$2x^2 - 7x + 3 = 0$$

$$2x^2 - 6x - x + 3 = 0$$

$$2x(x - 3) - (x - 3) = 0$$

$$(2x - 1)(x - 3) = 0$$

Therefore the factors are  $(2x - 1)$  and  $(x - 3)$

$$\text{Sum of the factors} = 2x - 1 + x - 3 = 3x - 4$$

**22) Answer: A**

Solution:

The general form of quadratic equation:

$$x^2 - (\text{sum of the roots})x + \text{product of the roots} = 0$$

Since roots are A and B

$$\text{Sum of the roots} = A + B$$

$$\text{Product of roots} = AB$$

$$(A+B)^2 = 729$$

$$A+B = \pm 27$$

Since A and B are positive roots A + B should be positive which is equal to 27

$$A + B = 27 \text{ --- (1)}$$

$$(A - B)^2 = 225$$

$$A - B = \pm 15$$

$$A - B = 15 \text{ --- (2)}$$

On solving (1) and (2)

$$A = 21 \text{ and } B = 6$$

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The required quadratic equation

$$x^2 - 27x + 126 = 0$$

**23) Answer: C**

Solution:

$$X + 1/x = \sqrt{3}$$

Cubing on both sides

$$x^3 + 1/x^3 + 3(x)(1/x)(x+1/x) = 3\sqrt{3}$$

$$x^3 + 1/x^3 + 3\sqrt{3} = 3\sqrt{3}$$

$$x^3 + 1/x^3 = 0$$

$$x^6 = -1$$

$$x^6 + 1/x^{12} = -1 + 1/(-1)^2 = 0$$

**24) Answer: B**

Solution:

$$a + b + c + d = 2$$

To get the maximum all a, b, c and d should be equal

$$\text{Therefore, } a = b = c = d = 1/2$$

$$(ab + bc + cd + da) = (1/4 + 1/4 + 1/4 + 1/4) = 1$$

**25) Answer: C**

Solution:

$$X + (1/(x + 1)) = 1$$

Adding 1 on both sides

$$(x + 1) + 1/(x + 1) = 2$$

The above expression is of the form  $a + 1/a = 2$

$a = 1$  satisfies the above expression

$$\text{Since } a = x + 1, x = 0$$

$$\text{Therefore, } (x + 1)^3 + 1/(x + 1)^7 = 2$$

**26) Answer: C**

Solution:

$$P + 1/p + 2 = 0$$

$$P + 1/p = -2 \text{ --- (1)}$$

$$p^2 + 2p + 1 = 0$$

$$(p + 1)^2 = 0$$

$$P = -1$$

(Or) by analyzing the expression (1), we can directly conclude that  $p = -1$

$$(p+2)^2 + 1/(p+2)^4 = (1)^2 + 1/(1)^4 = 2$$

**27) Answer: A**

Solution:

$$(x - 1/x)^2 = x^2 + 1/x^2 - 2(x)(1/x)$$

$$x^2 + 1/x^2 = (x - 1/x)^2 + 2$$

$$x^2 + 1/x^2 = 49 + 2 = 51$$

**28) Answer: A**

## Expected Algebra Questions for Railway Exams

Solution:

$$7p + 1/6p = \sqrt{5}$$

Squaring on both sides

$$(7p + 1/6p)^2 = 5$$

$$49p^2 + (1/36p^2) + 7/3 = 5$$

$$49p^2 + (1/36p^2) + 3/3 + 4/3 = 5$$

$$49p^2 + (1/36p^2) + 1 = 5 - 4/3$$

$$49p^2 + (1/36p^2) + 1 = 11/3$$

**29) Answer: C**

Solution:

$$x + 1/4x = 6$$

Multiply by 4 on both sides

$$4x + 1/x = 24$$

Squaring on both sides

$$(4x + 1/x)^2 = 24^2$$

$$16x^2 + 1/x^2 + 2(4x)(1/x) = 576$$

$$16x^2 + 1/x^2 = 568$$

**30) Answer: A**

Solution:

$$= 2^{16} - 255(2^8 + 1) \text{ ----- (1)}$$

$$255 \text{ can be rewritten as } 256 - 1 = 2^8 - 1$$

$$(1) \Rightarrow 2^{16} - (2^8 - 1)(2^8 + 1)$$

$$= 2^{16} - (2^8 - 1)(2^8 + 1) \text{ --- (2)}$$

Apply  $a^2 - b^2 = (a + b)(a - b)$  for  $(2^8 - 1)(2^8 + 1)$

$$(2) \Rightarrow 2^{16} - (2^{16} - 1)$$

$$= 1$$

**31) Answer: C**

Solution:

$$= (a - b)/(a + b) - (a + b)/(a - b)$$

$$= [(a - b)^2 - (a + b)^2]/[(a + b)(a - b)]$$

$$= [a^2 + b^2 - 2ab - a^2 - b^2 - 2ab]/[a^2 - b^2]$$

$$= -4ab/(a^2 - b^2)$$

**32) Answer: D**

Solution:

$$= [(\sqrt{6} + 1)/(\sqrt{6} - 1)] + [(\sqrt{6} - 1)/(\sqrt{6} + 1)]$$

$$= [(\sqrt{6} + 1)^2 + (\sqrt{6} - 1)^2]/[(\sqrt{6})^2 - 1^2]$$

$$= (6 + 1 + 2\sqrt{6} + 6 + 1 - 2\sqrt{6})/(6 - 1)$$

$$= 14/5$$

**33) Answer: B**

Solution:

$$= x/y - y/x$$

$$= (x^2 - y^2)/xy \text{ --- (1)}$$

## Expected Algebra Questions for Railway Exams

$$X = (1 + \sqrt{2}) / (1 - \sqrt{2})$$

Taking complex conjugate

$$X = (1 + \sqrt{2})^2 / ((1 + \sqrt{2})(1 - \sqrt{2})) = (1 + 2 + 2\sqrt{2}) / (-1)$$

$$X = -(3 + 2\sqrt{2})$$

$$x^2 = [-(3 + 2\sqrt{2})]^2 = 9 + 8 + 12\sqrt{2} = 17 + 12\sqrt{2}$$

$$y = (1 - \sqrt{2}) / (1 + \sqrt{2})$$

Taking complex conjugate

$$y = [(1 - \sqrt{2})(1 - \sqrt{2})] / [(1 + \sqrt{2})(1 - \sqrt{2})] = (1 - \sqrt{2})^2 / (1 - 2) \\ = (1 + 2 - 2\sqrt{2}) / (-1)$$

$$y = 2\sqrt{2} - 3$$

$$y^2 = (2\sqrt{2} - 3)^2 = 8 + 9 - 12\sqrt{2} = 17 - 12\sqrt{2}$$

$$xy = -(2\sqrt{2} + 3)(2\sqrt{2} - 3) = -(8 - 9) = 1$$

$$(1) \Rightarrow (17 + 12\sqrt{2} - 17 + 12\sqrt{2}) / 1 = 24\sqrt{2}$$

**34) Answer: D**

$$= (a^2 + ab + b^2) / (a^2 - ab + b^2)$$

By using algebraic identities the numerator and denominator becomes

$$= [(a + b)^2 - ab] / [(a + b)^2 - 3ab] \text{ ----- (1)}$$

Put the values of  $a + b$  and  $ab$

$$(1) \Rightarrow [4^2 - 1] / [4^2 - 3] = 15/13$$

**35) Answer: B**

Solution:

Given:

$$a^3 - b^3 = 26$$

$$(a + b)^2 = 13 + ab \Rightarrow a^2 + b^2 + 2ab = 13 + ab$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2 + b^2 + ab = 13$$

As we know that,

$$a^3 - b^3 = (a - b)(a^2 + b^2 + ab)$$

Substitute the values in above expression

$$26 = (a - b)(13)$$

$$a - b = 2$$

**36) Answer: D**

Solution:

$$\text{As we know the identity, } a^3 + b^3 = (a + b)(a^2 - ab + b^2)$$

$$P + q = \sqrt{5} + (1/\sqrt{5}) + \sqrt{5} - (1/\sqrt{5}) = 2\sqrt{5}$$

$$\text{Applying } (a + b)(a - b) = a^2 - b^2$$

$$Pq = (\sqrt{5} + 1/\sqrt{5})(\sqrt{5} - 1/\sqrt{5}) = 5 - 1/5 = 24/5 \rightarrow p^2 + q^2 = (p + q)^2 - 2pq$$

Substitute the values of  $(p + q)$  and  $pq$  in above expression

$$p^2 + q^2 = (2\sqrt{5})^2 - 48/5 = 52/5$$

Then,

$$p^3 + q^3 = (p + q)(p^2 - pq + q^2)$$

$$p^3 + q^3 = 2\sqrt{5}(52/5 - 24/5) = 2\sqrt{5}(28/5) = 56/\sqrt{5}$$



## Expected Algebra Questions for Railway Exams

### 37) Answer: A

Solution:

$$\text{As, } a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 3abc = (a + b + c)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca)$$

Put the value of  $a + b = -c$  in above expression

$$\text{Then, } a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 3abc = (-c + c)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca)$$

$$a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 3abc = 0$$

### 38) Answer: C

Solution:

$$= (x^2 + 8x + 16)/(x^2 + 6x + 8) \text{ ----- (1)}$$

The factors of  $x^2 + 8x + 16$  is  $(x + 4)(x + 4)$

The factors of  $x^2 + 6x + 8$  is  $(x + 4)(x + 2)$

$$\text{Substituting equ.(1)} \Rightarrow (x + 4)(x + 4)/(x + 4)(x + 2) = (x + 4)/(x + 2)$$

Thus,  $(x + 4)/(x + 2)$  is the required answer

### 39) Answer: B

Solution:

$$= [(a - b)^2 - (a + b)^2]/a^2b - ab^2$$

$$= (a^2 + b^2 - 2ab - a^2 - b^2 - 2ab)/ab(a - b)$$

$$= -4ab/ab(a - b)$$

$$= -4/(a - b)$$

### 40) Answer: D

Solution:

$$1/a + 1/b + 1/c = 2$$

$$(ab + bc + ca)/abc = 2 \text{ ----- (1)}$$

$$abc = (ab + bc + ca)/2$$

$$\text{As, } (a + b + c)^2 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 2(ab + bc + ca)$$

Substitute the values of  $a + b + c$  and  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2$  in above expression

Then it becomes,

$$100 = 64 + 2(ab + bc + ca)$$

$$(ab + bc + ca) = 18$$

$$(1) \Rightarrow 18/abc = 2$$

$$abc = 9$$

### 41) Answer: D

Solution:

$$\text{Based on algebraic identity, } a^4 - b^4 = (a^2 + b^2)(a^2 - b^2)$$

$$(a^2 + b^2) = (a^4 - b^4)/(a^2 - b^2) = 65/5 = 13$$

### 42) Answer: B

Solution:

To find the remainder value, put  $x = 2$  in the given expression

$$f(x) = x^4 - 2x^3 + 3x^2 - 5x - 8$$

## Expected Algebra Questions for Railway Exams

$$f(2) = 2^4 - 2(2)^3 + 3(2)^2 - 5(2) - 8$$

$$= 16 - 16 + 12 - 10 - 8 = -6$$

**43) Answer: A**

Solution:

$$x^2 - 3x - 1 = 0$$

$$\div \text{ by } x \Rightarrow x - 3 - 1/x = 0$$

$$X - 1/x = 3$$

By using algebraic identity  $(a - b)^3 = a^3 - b^3 - 3ab(a - b)$

$$(x - 1/x)^3 = x^3 - 1/x^3 - 3(x)(1/x)(x - 1/x)$$

$$3^3 = x^3 - 1/x^3 - 3(3)$$

$$x^3 - 1/x^3 = 27 + 9 = 36$$

**44) Answer: D**

Solution:

$$\text{As, } x^2 - y^2 = (x + y)(x - y) \text{ ----- (1)}$$

By using identity  $(x - y)^2 = (x + y)^2 - 4xy$

$$(x - y)^2 = 12^2 - 4(11) = 144 - 44 = 100$$

$$X - y = 10$$

$$(1) \Rightarrow x^2 - y^2 = 12 \cdot 10 = 120$$

**45) Answer: C**

Solution:

$$(x - 1/x)^2 = x^2 + 1/x^2 - 2(x)(1/x)$$

$$3^2 = x^2 + 1/x^2 - 2$$

$$x^2 + 1/x^2 = 11$$

**46) Answer: D**

Solution:

$$x^2 + 1/x^2 = \sqrt{3}$$

Cubing on both sides

$$(x^2 + 1/x^2)^3 = (\sqrt{3})^3$$

$$x^6 + 1/x^6 + 3(x^2)(1/x^2)(x^2 + 1/x^2) = 3\sqrt{3}$$

$$x^6 + 1/x^6 = 3\sqrt{3} - 3\sqrt{3} = 0$$

$$x^{12} + 1 = 0$$

$$x^{12} = -1$$

$$\Rightarrow x^{36} + 1/x^{24} = (x^{12})^3 + 1/(x^{12})^2 = (-1)^3 + 1/(-1)^2 = 0$$

**47) Answer: B**

Solution:

$$x^{54} + x^{51} = x^{51}(x^3 + 1) \text{ ----- (1)}$$

Substitute the value of  $x^3$  in (1)

$$(1) \Rightarrow x^{54} + x^{51} = 0$$

**48) Answer: A**

Solution:

Given

$$a/b = 1 - b/a$$

## Expected Algebra Questions for Railway Exams

The above expression is rewritten as,

$$a/b + b/a = 1$$

$$(a^2 + b^2)/ab = 1$$

$$(a^2 + b^2) = ab$$

As per algebraic identity,

$$a^3 + b^3 = (a + b)(a^2 - ab + b^2) \text{ ----- (2)}$$

Substitute the value of  $a^2 + b^2$

$$(2) \Rightarrow a^3 + b^3 = (a + b)(ab - ab) = 0$$

**49) Answer: C**

Solution:

$$X = 11 + 6\sqrt{2}$$

$$X = (9 + 2 + 6\sqrt{2})$$

$$X = (3^2 + (\sqrt{2})^2 + 2(3)(\sqrt{2}))$$

$$x = (3 + \sqrt{2})^2$$

$$\sqrt{x} = (3 + \sqrt{2})$$

$$1/\sqrt{x} = 1/(3 + \sqrt{2})$$

Taking complex conjugate

$$1/\sqrt{x} = (3 - \sqrt{2})/((3 + \sqrt{2})(3 - \sqrt{2})) = (3 - \sqrt{2})/(9 - 2) = (3 - \sqrt{2})/7$$

$$\sqrt{x} + 1/\sqrt{x} = (3 + \sqrt{2}) + ((3 - \sqrt{2})/7)$$

$$= (21 + 7\sqrt{2} + 3 - \sqrt{2})/7 = (24 + 6\sqrt{2})/7$$

**50) Answer: B**

Solution:

$$a(2 - \sqrt{3}) = b(2 + \sqrt{3}) = 1$$

$$\text{This is same as, } a(2 - \sqrt{3}) = 1 \text{ \& } b(2 + \sqrt{3}) = 1$$

$$1/a = (2 - \sqrt{3}) \text{ and } 1/b = (2 + \sqrt{3})$$

$$\text{So, } 1/a + 1/b = (2 - \sqrt{3}) + (2 + \sqrt{3}) = 4$$

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