

Section 7.1 Radicals and Radical Functions 417

Find each root. Assume that all variables represent nonnegative real numbers. See Example 4.

29. $-\sqrt[4]{16}$

30. $\sqrt[5]{-243}$

31. $\sqrt[4]{-16}$

32. $\sqrt{-16}$

33. $\sqrt[5]{-32}$

34. $\sqrt[5]{-1}$

35. $\sqrt[5]{x^{20}}$

36. $\sqrt[4]{x^{20}}$

37. $\sqrt[6]{64x^{12}}$

38. $\sqrt[5]{-32x^{15}}$

39. $\sqrt{81x^4}$

40. $\sqrt[4]{81x^4}$

41. $\sqrt[4]{256x^8}$

42. $\sqrt{256x^8}$

Simplify. Assume that the variables represent any real number. See Example 5.

43. $\sqrt{(-8)^2}$

44. $\sqrt{(-7)^2}$

45. $\sqrt[3]{(-8)^3}$

46. $\sqrt[5]{(-7)^5}$

47. $\sqrt{4x^2}$

48. $\sqrt[4]{16x^4}$

49. $\sqrt[3]{x^3}$

50. $\sqrt[5]{x^5}$

51. $\sqrt{(x-5)^2}$

52. $\sqrt{(y-6)^2}$

53. $\sqrt{x^2 + 4x + 4}$
(Hint: Factor the polynomial first.)

54. $\sqrt{x^2 - 8x + 16}$
(Hint: Factor the polynomial first.)

MIXED PRACTICE

Simplify each radical. Assume that all variables represent positive real numbers.

55. $-\sqrt{121}$

56. $-\sqrt[3]{125}$

57. $\sqrt[3]{8x^3}$

58. $\sqrt{16x^8}$

59. $\sqrt{y^{12}}$

60. $\sqrt[3]{y^{12}}$

61. $\sqrt{25a^2b^{20}}$

62. $\sqrt{9x^4y^6}$

63. $\sqrt[3]{-27x^{12}y^9}$

64. $\sqrt[3]{-8a^{21}b^6}$

65. $\sqrt[4]{a^{16}b^4}$

66. $\sqrt[4]{x^8y^{12}}$

67. $\sqrt[5]{-32x^{10}y^5}$

68. $\sqrt[5]{-243x^5z^{15}}$

69. $\sqrt{\frac{25}{49}}$

70. $\sqrt{\frac{4}{81}}$

71. $\sqrt{\frac{x^{20}}{4y^2}}$

72. $\sqrt{\frac{y^{10}}{9x^6}}$

73. $-\sqrt[3]{\frac{z^{21}}{27x^3}}$

74. $-\sqrt[3]{\frac{64a^3}{x^9}}$

75. $\sqrt[4]{\frac{x^4}{16}}$

76. $\sqrt[4]{\frac{y^4}{81x^4}}$

If $f(x) = \sqrt{2x+3}$ and $g(x) = \sqrt[3]{x-8}$, find the following function values. See Example 6.

77. $f(0)$

78. $g(0)$

79. $g(7)$

80. $f(-1)$

81. $g(-19)$

82. $f(3)$

83. $f(2)$

84. $g(1)$

Identify the domain and then graph each function. See Example 7.

85. $f(x) = \sqrt{x} + 2$

86. $f(x) = \sqrt{x} - 2$

87. $f(x) = \sqrt{x-3}$; use the following table.

x	$f(x)$
3	
4	
7	
12	

88. $f(x) = \sqrt{x+1}$; use the following table.

x	$f(x)$
-1	
0	
3	
8	

Identify the domain and then graph each function. See Example 8.

89. $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x} + 1$

90. $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x} - 2$

91. $g(x) = \sqrt[3]{x-1}$; use the following table.

x	$g(x)$
1	
2	
0	
9	
-7	

92. $g(x) = \sqrt[3]{x+1}$; use the following table.

x	$g(x)$
-1	
0	
-2	
7	

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EXAMPLE 4 Simplify the following expressions.

- a. $\sqrt[4]{81}$ b. $\sqrt[5]{-243}$ c. $-\sqrt{25}$ d. $\sqrt[4]{-81}$ e. $\sqrt[3]{64x^3}$

Solution

- a. $\sqrt[4]{81} = 3$ because $3^4 = 81$ and 3 is positive.
 b. $\sqrt[5]{-243} = -3$ because $(-3)^5 = -243$.
 c. $-\sqrt{25} = -5$ because -5 is the opposite of $\sqrt{25}$.
 d. $\sqrt[4]{-81}$ is not a real number. There is no real number that, when raised to the fourth power, is -81 .
 e. $\sqrt[3]{64x^3} = 4x$ because $(4x)^3 = 64x^3$. □

PRACTICE

4

Simplify the following expressions.

- a. $\sqrt[4]{10,000}$ b. $\sqrt[5]{-1}$ c. $-\sqrt{81}$ d. $\sqrt[4]{-625}$ e. $\sqrt[3]{27x^9}$

OBJECTIVE

5

Finding $\sqrt[n]{a^n}$ Where a Is a Real NumberRecall that the notation $\sqrt{a^2}$ indicates the positive square root of a^2 only. For example,

$$\sqrt{(-7)^2} = \sqrt{49} = 7$$

When variables are present in the radicand and it is *unclear whether the variable represents a positive number or a negative number*, absolute value bars are sometimes needed to ensure that the result is a positive number. For example,

$$\sqrt{x^2} = |x|$$

This ensures that the result is positive. This same situation may occur when the index is any *even* positive integer. When the index is any *odd* positive integer, absolute value bars are not necessary.

Finding $\sqrt[n]{a^n}$ If n is an *even* positive integer, then $\sqrt[n]{a^n} = |a|$.If n is an *odd* positive integer, then $\sqrt[n]{a^n} = a$.**EXAMPLE 5** Simplify.

- a. $\sqrt{(-3)^2}$ b. $\sqrt{x^2}$ c. $\sqrt[4]{(x-2)^4}$ d. $\sqrt[3]{(-5)^3}$
 e. $\sqrt[5]{(2x-7)^5}$ f. $\sqrt{25x^2}$ g. $\sqrt{x^2 + 2x + 1}$

Solution

a. $\sqrt{(-3)^2} = |-3| = 3$

When the index is even, the absolute value bars ensure that our result is not negative.

b. $\sqrt{x^2} = |x|$

c. $\sqrt[4]{(x-2)^4} = |x-2|$

d. $\sqrt[3]{(-5)^3} = -5$

e. $\sqrt[5]{(2x-7)^5} = 2x-7$ Absolute value bars are not needed when the index is odd.

f. $\sqrt{25x^2} = 5|x|$

g. $\sqrt{x^2 + 2x + 1} = \sqrt{(x+1)^2} = |x+1|$

Sample of
how problem
should be
answered