

## Week 2: Algebra Basics

Try these exercises now, do not use a calculator until question 12, and try to solve the exercises without help

1. Evaluate  $2x^3$  when  $x = -1$
2. Simplify  $2x^3 + x^3 + x^4 + x^2 \times x + \frac{x^2}{x^6} - (x^2)^3$
3. Explain the distinction, if any, between each of the following expressions, and simplify if possible.  
(a)  $4x - 2x$ , (b)  $4x(-2x)$ , (c)  $4x(2x)$ , (d)  $-4x(2x)$ , (e)  $-4x - 2x$ , (f)  $(4x)(2x)$ .
4. Explain the distinction between  $(x + 3)(x + 2)$  and  $x + 3(x + 2)$ .
5. Explain why  $x^2$  is a factor of  $4x^2 + 3yx^3 + 5yx^4$  but  $y$  is not, then factorise the  $4x^2 + 3yx^3 + 5yx^4$
6. Factorise (a)  $6x^2 + 7x - 5$  and (b)  $4x^2 - 9$
7. Simplify, if possible, (a)  $\frac{abc}{3ac}$  and (b)  $\frac{3ab}{a+b}$
8. Simplify, if possible,  $\frac{x^2+2x-15}{2x^2-5x-3}$
9. Evaluate  $(0.2)^4$
10. Evaluate  $125^{-\frac{1}{3}}$
11. Evaluation  $169^{0.5}$
12. The rabbit population in Douglas County, which is currently 8,200 rabbits, is increasing by 15% each year. How many rabbits will there be in 3 years?