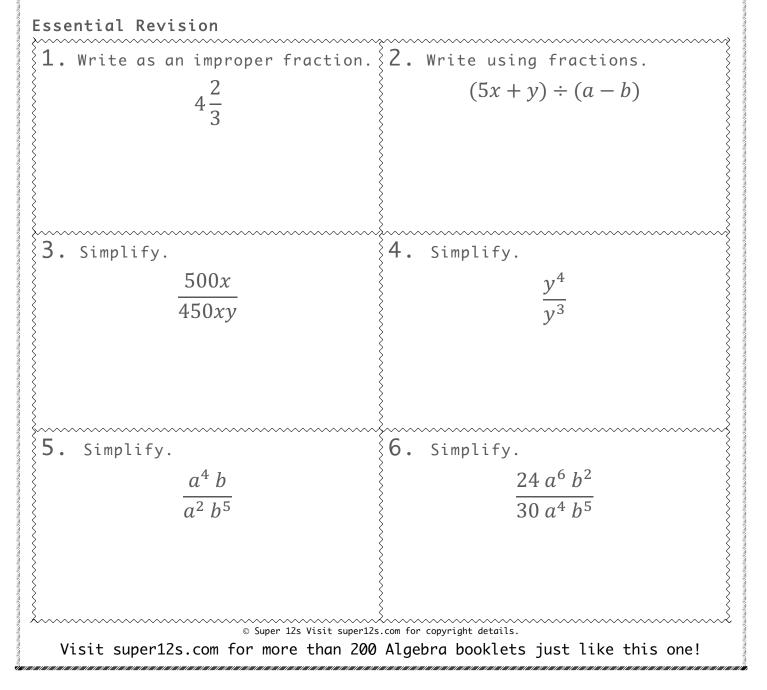
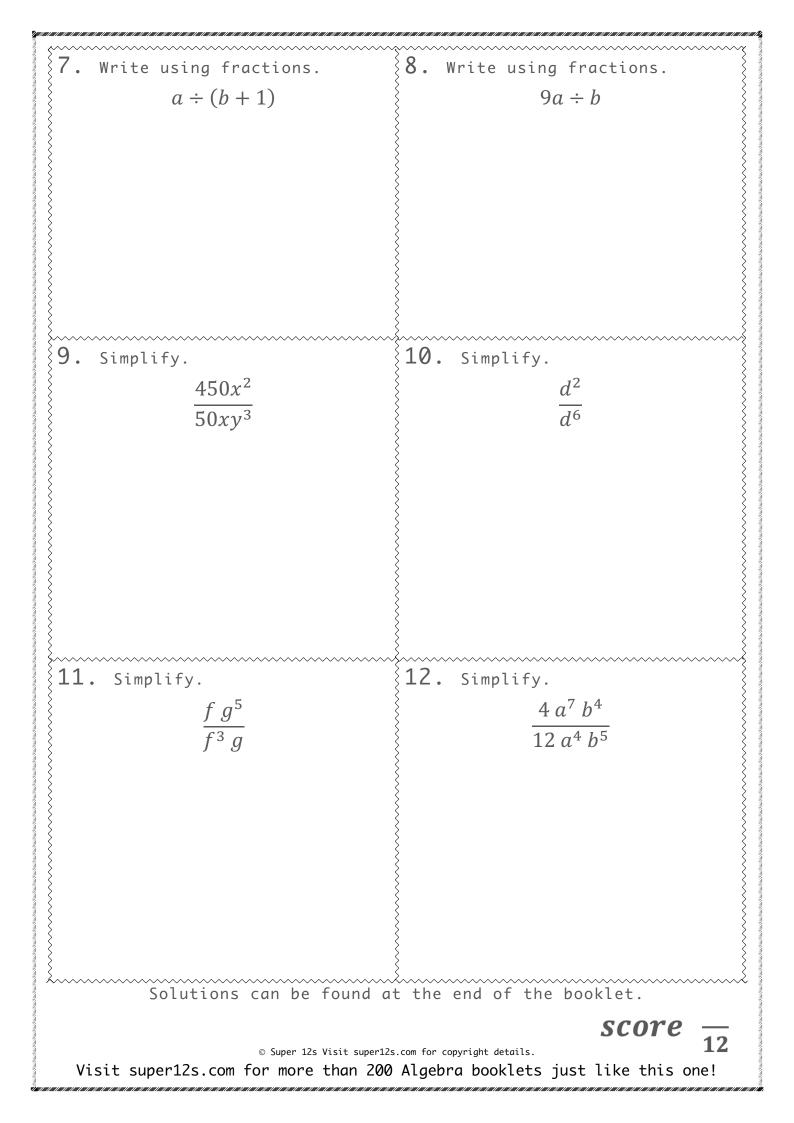


Skill description: Simplifying algebraic fractions that contain common numerical factors (including negatives) and multiple common variables raised to powers.





STRATEGIES TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS

Example 1

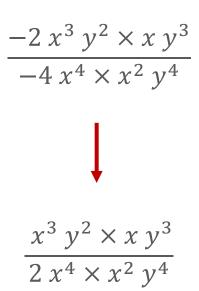
Simplify the following algebraic fraction.

$$\frac{-2 x^3 y^2 \times x y^3}{-4 x^4 \times x^2 y^4}$$

In this example the numerator and denominator have a common numerical factor and variables (x and y).

Step 1

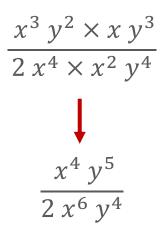
Simplify the coefficients by dividing the numerator and denominator by the highest common factor (2). As both values are negative, these will cancel each other out also, leaving positive values.



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Step 2

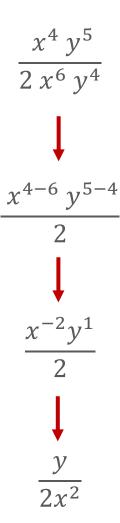
Understanding index notation, we can simplify the x and y variables by multiplying the terms in the numerator and denominator.



Step 3

By understanding index notation, we can simplify the x and

y variables.



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Example 2

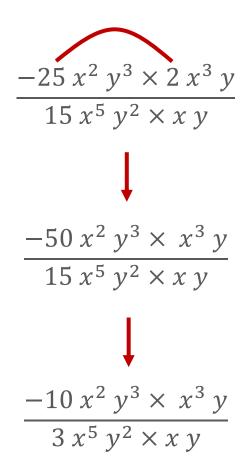
Simplify the following algebraic fraction.

$$\frac{-25 x^2 y^3 \times 2 x^3 y}{15 x^5 y^2 \times x y}$$

In this example the numerator and denominator have a common numerical factor and variables (x and y).

Step 1

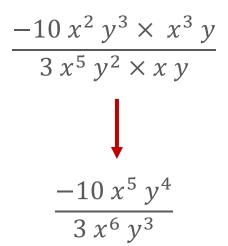
Simplify the coefficients by multiplying the values in the numerator, then dividing the numerator and denominator by the highest common factor (5).



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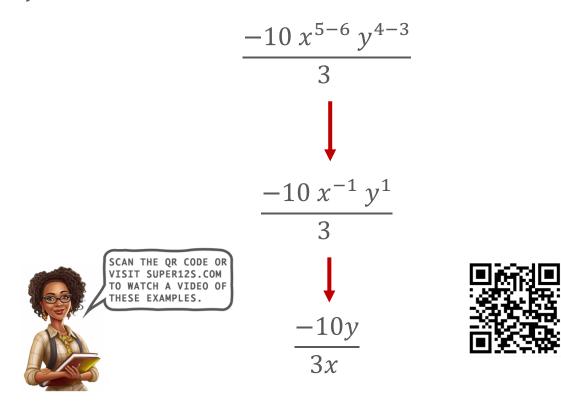
Step 2

We can simplify the x and y variables by multiplying the terms in the numerator and denominator.

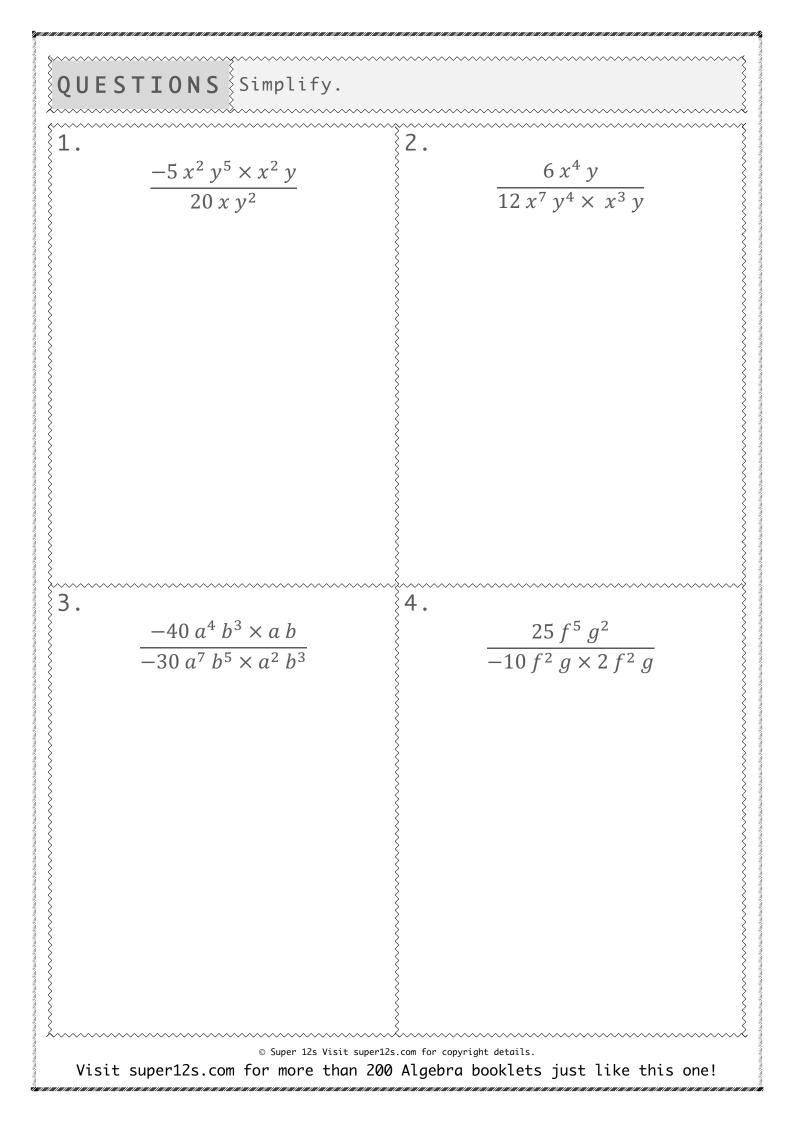


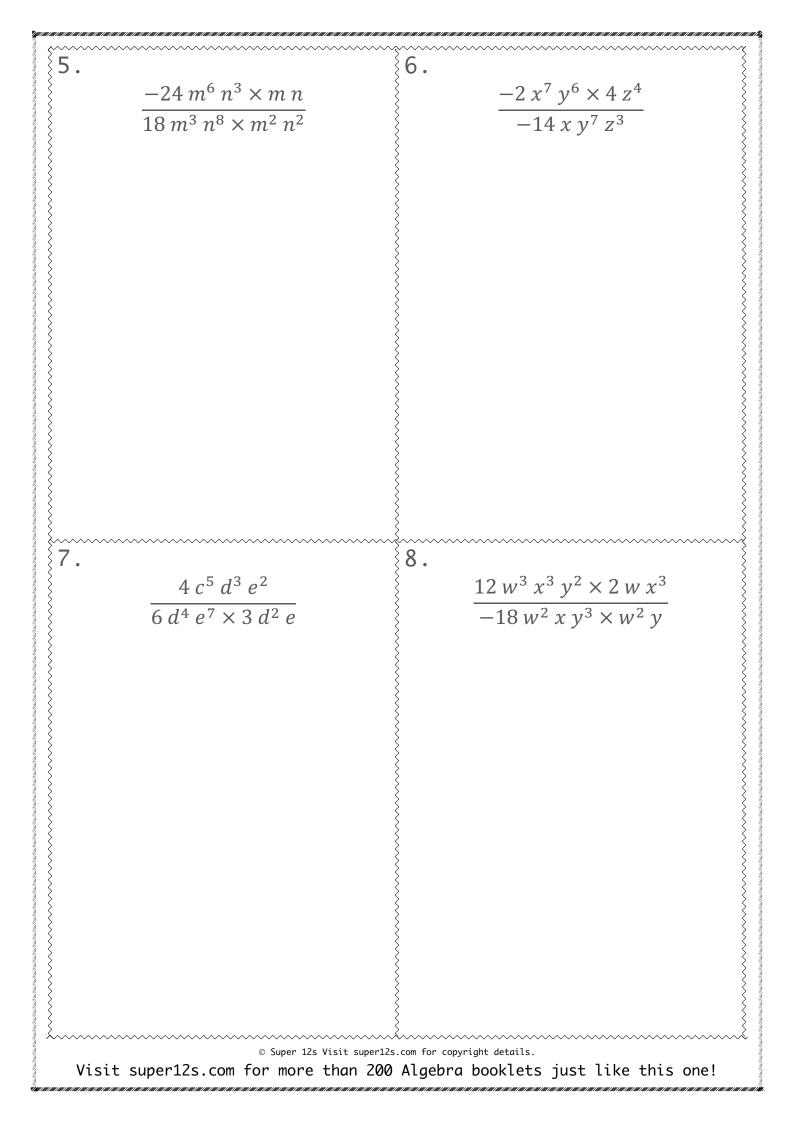
Step 3

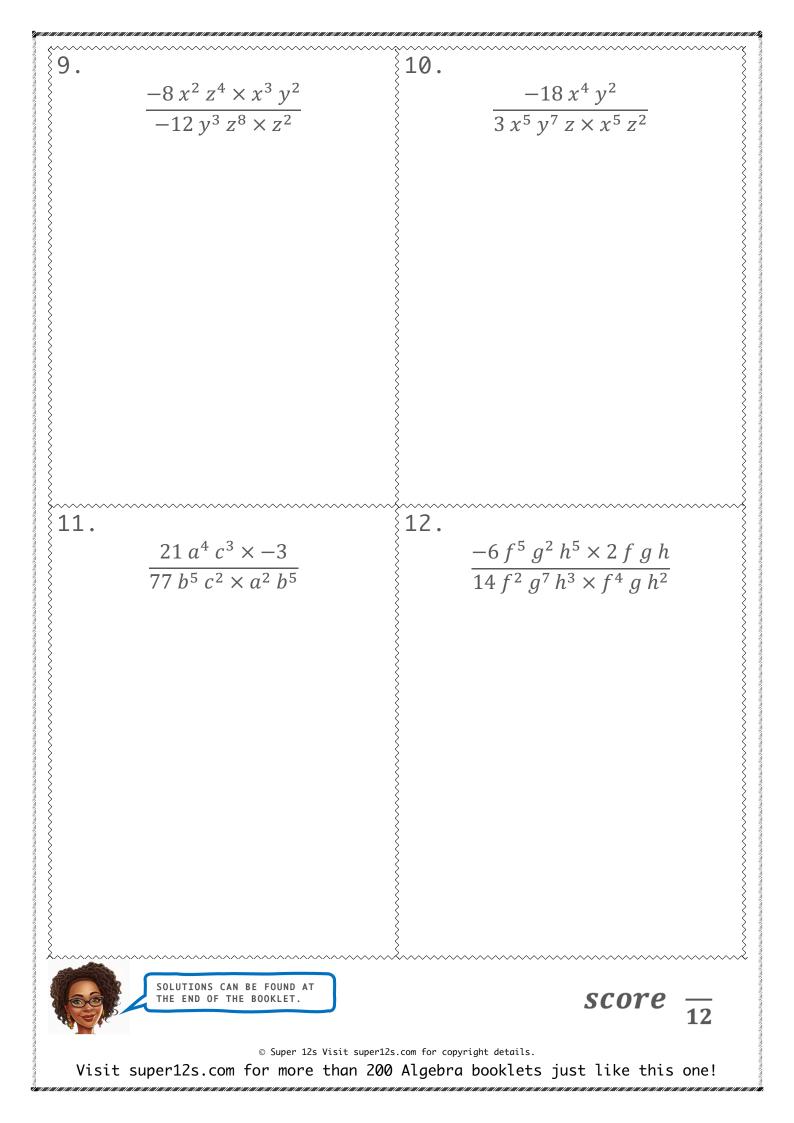
By understanding index notation, we can simplify the x and y variables.

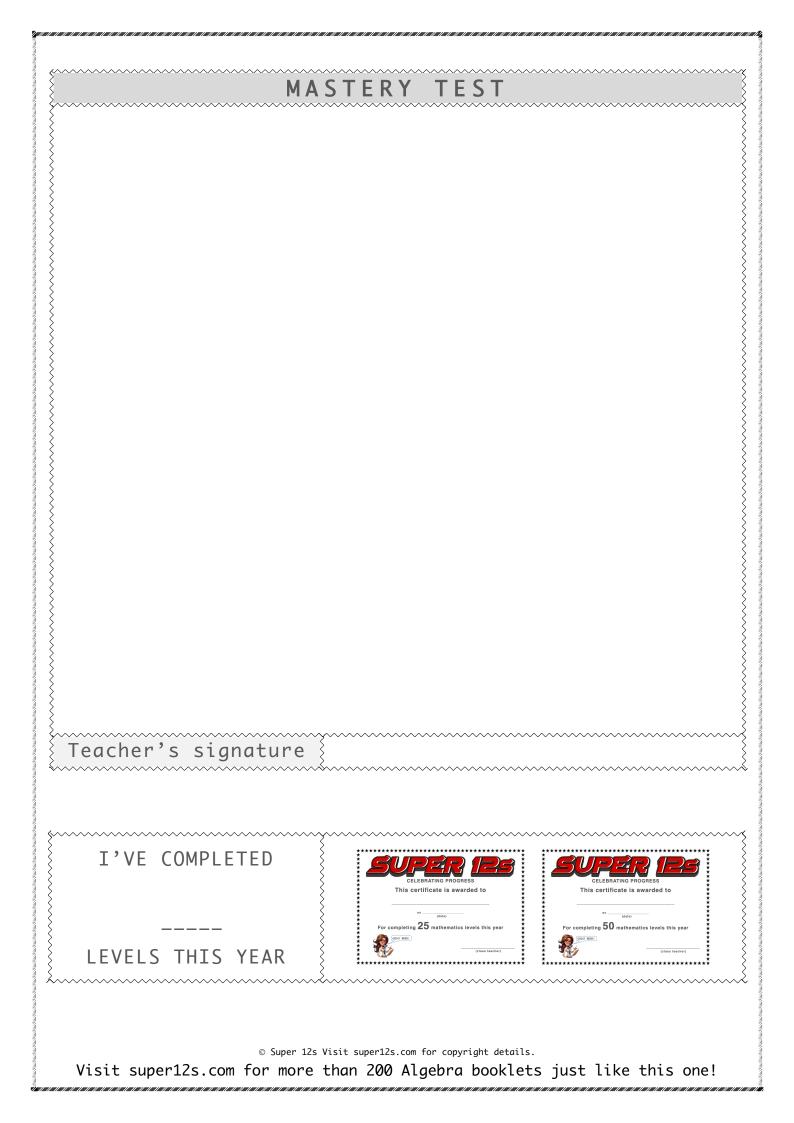


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Solutions to Essential Revision

1. $\frac{14}{3}$	2. $\frac{5x+y}{a-b}$
3. $\frac{10}{9y}$	4. <i>y</i>
5. $\frac{a^2}{b^4}$	6. $\frac{4a^2}{5b^3}$
7. $\frac{a}{b+1}$	8. $\frac{9a}{b}$
9. $\frac{9x}{y^3}$	10. $\frac{1}{d^4}$
11. $\frac{g^4}{f^2}$	12. $\frac{a^3}{3b}$

Solutions to Questions

$1. \frac{-x^3y^4}{4}$	2. $\frac{1}{2x^6y^4}$
$3. \frac{4}{3a^4b^4}$	4. $\frac{5f}{-4}$
$5. \frac{-4m^2}{3n^6}$	$6. \frac{4x^6z}{7y}$
$\frac{2c^5}{9d^3e^6}$	8. $\frac{4x^5}{-3y^2}$
9. $\frac{2x^5}{3yz^6}$	10. $\frac{-6}{x^6y^5z^3}$
$11. \frac{-9a^2c}{11b^{10}}$	12. $\frac{-6h}{7g^5}$

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