

## Section 3: Inequalities and indices

### Solutions to Exercise

1. (i)  $2x + 3 < 10$

$$2x < 7$$

$$x < \frac{7}{2}$$

(ii)  $5x + 3 \geq 2x - 9$

$$3x + 3 \geq -9$$

$$3x \geq -12$$

$$x \geq -4$$

(iii)  $4x + 1 \leq 6x - 7$

$$1 \leq 2x - 7$$

$$8 \leq 2x$$

$$4 \leq x$$

$$x \geq 4$$

(iv)  $5(x - 3) \leq 2(2x + 3)$

$$5x - 15 \leq 4x + 6$$

$$x - 15 \leq 6$$

$$x \leq 21$$

(v)  $4(2x + 5) \geq 3(3x - 1)$

$$8x + 20 \geq 9x - 3$$

$$20 \geq x - 3$$

$$23 \geq x$$

$$x \leq 23$$

(vi)  $\frac{2x+1}{3} > \frac{x-4}{2}$

$$2(2x+1) > 3(x-4)$$

$$4x+2 > 3x-12$$

$$x+2 > -12$$

$$x > -14$$

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2. (i)  $3x - 1 > 7 - x$

$$4x - 1 > 7$$

$$4x > 8$$

$$x > 2$$

The smallest integer value that satisfies the inequality is 3.

(ii)  $2(1 - x) > 3x + 4$

$$2 - 2x > 3x + 4$$

$$2 > 5x + 4$$

$$-2 > 5x$$

$$-\frac{2}{5} > x$$

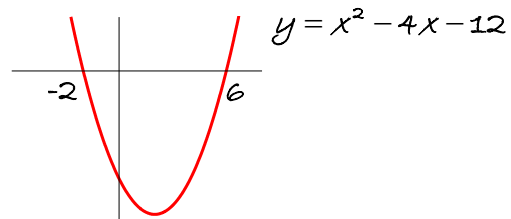
$$x < -\frac{2}{5}$$

The largest integer value that satisfies the inequality is -1.

3. (i)  $x^2 - 4x - 12 \leq 0$

$$(x - 6)(x + 2) \leq 0$$

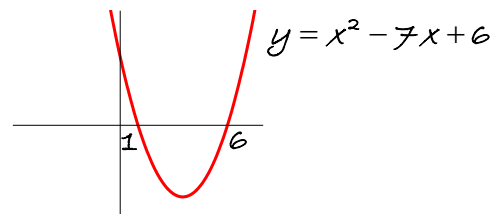
From graph,  $-2 \leq x \leq 6$



(ii)  $x^2 - 7x + 6 > 0$

$$(x - 1)(x - 6) > 0$$

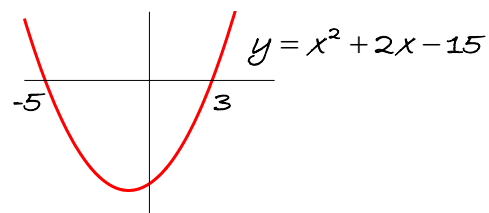
From graph,  $x < 1$  or  $x > 6$



(iii)  $x^2 + 2x - 15 \geq 0$

$$(x + 5)(x - 3) \geq 0$$

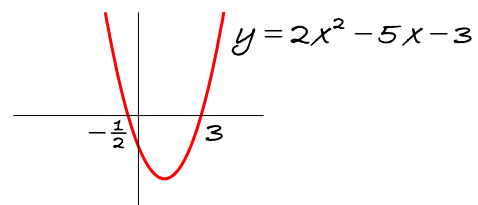
From graph,  $x \leq -5$  or  $x \geq 3$



(v)  $3x^2 + 5x + 2 < 0$

$$(3x + 2)(x + 1) < 0$$

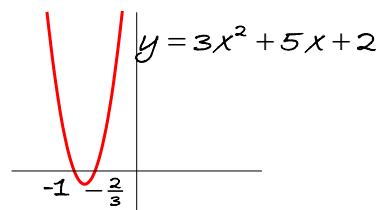
From graph,  $-1 < x < -\frac{2}{3}$



(vi)  $4x^2 - 4x - 3 > 0$

$$(2x - 3)(2x + 1) > 0$$

From graph,  $x < -\frac{1}{2}$  or  $x > \frac{3}{2}$



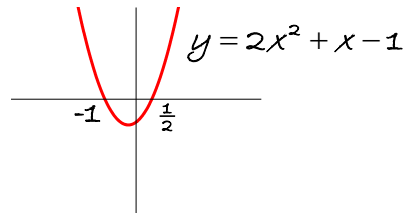
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(vii)  $1 - x - 2x^2 \geq 0$

$$2x^2 + x - 1 \leq 0$$

$$(2x - 1)(x + 1) \leq 0$$

From graph,  $-1 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2}$

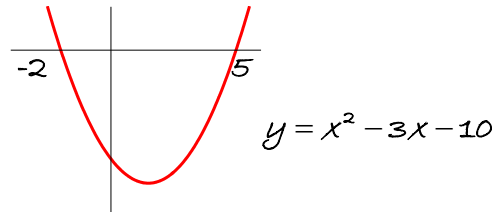


(ix)  $x^2 \geq 3x + 10$

$$x^2 - 3x - 10 \geq 0$$

$$(x - 5)(x + 2) \geq 0$$

From graph,  $x \leq -2$  or  $x \geq 5$



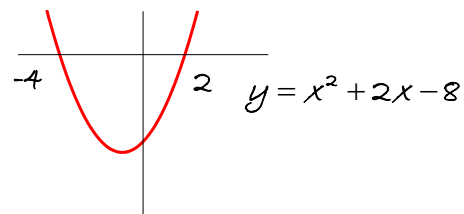
(x)  $x(x + 3) > x + 8$

$$x^2 + 3x > x + 8$$

$$x^2 + 2x - 8 > 0$$

$$(x + 4)(x - 2) > 0$$

From graph,  $x < -4$  or  $x > 2$

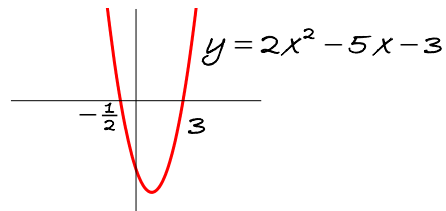


4. (i)  $2x^2 - 5x - 3 \leq 0$

$$(2x + 1)(x - 3) \leq 0$$

From graph,  $-\frac{1}{2} \leq x \leq 3$

The integer values are 0, 1, 2, 3



(ii)  $x^2 + 2x - 1 < 0$  cannot be factorised, so use quadratic formula to solve the equation  $x^2 + 2x - 1 = 0$ :

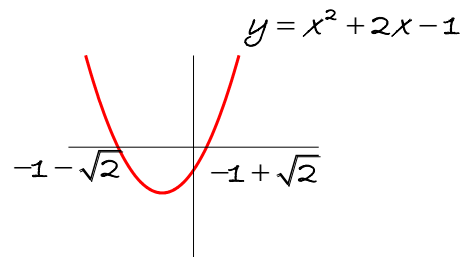
$$a = 1, b = 2, c = -1$$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{2^2 - 4 \times 1 \times -1}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{8}}{2} = \frac{-2 \pm 2\sqrt{2}}{2} = -1 \pm \sqrt{2}$$

From graph,  $-1 - \sqrt{2} < x < -1 + \sqrt{2}$

The integer values are -2, -1, 0.



5. (i)  $3^4 = 3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 3 = 81$

(ii)  $2^6 = 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 = 64$

(iii)  $4^{1/2} = \sqrt{4} = 2$

(iv)  $6^0 = 1$

(v)  $5^{-2} = \frac{1}{5^2} = \frac{1}{25}$

(vi)  $64^{1/3} = \sqrt[3]{64} = 4$

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$$(vii) 16^{-1/2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{16}} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$(viii) 8^{5/3} = (\sqrt[3]{8})^5 = 2^5 = 32$$

$$(ix) 36^{-3/2} = \frac{1}{(\sqrt{36})^3} = \frac{1}{6^3} = \frac{1}{216}$$

$$(x) \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{-1} = (2^{-1})^{-1} = 2^1 = 2$$

$$(xi) \left(\frac{25}{9}\right)^{-1/2} = \left(\frac{9}{25}\right)^{1/2} = \sqrt{\frac{9}{25}} = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$(xii) \left(\frac{27}{64}\right)^{-2/3} = \left(\frac{64}{27}\right)^{2/3} = \left(\sqrt[3]{\frac{64}{27}}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^2 = \frac{16}{9}$$

$$(xiii) \frac{2^5 \times 4^{1/2}}{2} = \frac{2^5 \times (2^2)^{1/2}}{2} = \frac{2^5 \times 2^1}{2} = 2^{5+1-1} = 2^5 = 32$$

$$(xiv) (3^5)^{3/2} \times 9^{-7/4} = (3^5)^{3/2} \times (3^2)^{-7/4} = 3^{15/2} \times 3^{-7/2} = 3^{\frac{15}{2}-\frac{7}{2}} = 3^4 = 81$$

6. (i)  $2a^3b \times 3ab \times 5b^3 = 2 \times 3 \times 5 \times a^3 \times a \times b \times b \times b^3 = 30a^4b^5$

$$(ii) \frac{2a^2b}{4ab^2} = \frac{\cancel{2} \times \cancel{a} \times a \times \cancel{b}}{\cancel{2} \times \cancel{a} \times b \times \cancel{b}} = \frac{a}{2b}$$

$$(iii) \frac{12p^2qr^3}{9pq^2r} = \frac{\cancel{4} \times \cancel{3} \times \cancel{p} \times p \times \cancel{q} \times \cancel{r} \times r \times r}{\cancel{3} \times \cancel{p} \times \cancel{q} \times q \times \cancel{r}} = \frac{4pr^2}{3q}$$

$$(iv) 4xy^2 \div (2x^2y)^3 = \frac{\cancel{4} \times \cancel{y}^2}{\cancel{2} \times x^6 \times y^3} = \frac{1}{2x^5y}$$

$$(v) (a^{11} \times a^{-4}) \div a^3 = a^{11-4-3} = a^4$$

$$(vi) (p^5)^3 \times (p^7)^{-2} = p^{15} \times p^{-14} = p^{15-14} = p$$

$$(vii) x^{\frac{3}{2}} \times \sqrt{x} = x^{\frac{3}{2}} \times x^{\frac{1}{2}} = x^{\frac{3}{2}+\frac{1}{2}} = x^2$$

$$(viii) (y^{\frac{1}{3}})^2 \div y = y^{\frac{2}{3}} \times y^{-1} = y^{\frac{2}{3}-1} = y^{-\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$(ix) \frac{p^6}{p^5 \times p^3} = p^{6-5-3} = p^{-2} = \frac{1}{p^2}$$

$$(x) \sqrt{\frac{x^{4/3}}{x^{1/3} \times x^{8/3}}} = \sqrt{x^{\frac{4}{3}-\frac{1}{3}-\frac{8}{3}}} = \sqrt{x^{-\frac{5}{3}}} = (x^{-\frac{5}{3}})^{\frac{1}{2}} = x^{-\frac{5}{6}}$$

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$$7. (i) \quad x^{\frac{3}{2}} = 8$$

$$\left(x^{\frac{3}{2}}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}} = 8^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$x = 2^2 = 4$$

$$(ii) \quad y^{-2} = \frac{9}{4}$$

$$y^2 = \frac{4}{9}$$

$$y = \sqrt{\frac{4}{9}} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$8. \quad (x+3)^2 > (x-1)^2$$

$$(x+3)^2 - (x-1)^2 > 0$$

$$(2x+2)(4) > 0$$

$$x+1 > 0$$

$$x > -1$$

$$9. \quad \sqrt{\frac{b}{a}} = \sqrt{\frac{x^a}{x^c}}$$
$$= \sqrt{x^{a-c}}$$
$$= x^{\frac{a-c}{2}}$$