

**RADICALS AND RADICAL EQUATIONS**

1. (1989 AIME, #1) Compute  $\sqrt{(31)(30)(29)(28) + 1}$ .
2. (2003 Harvard-MIT Math Tournament, Guts Round, #7)  $a$  and  $b$  are integers such that  $a + \sqrt{b} = \sqrt{15 + \sqrt{216}}$ . Compute  $a/b$ .
3. (2011 AMC 10 A, #16) Which of the following is equal to  $\sqrt{9 - 6\sqrt{2}} + \sqrt{9 + 6\sqrt{2}}$ ?  
 (A)  $3\sqrt{2}$  (B)  $2\sqrt{6}$  (C)  $\frac{7\sqrt{2}}{2}$  (D)  $3\sqrt{3}$  (E) 6
4. (1999 Middle School Math Contest, Shandong Province, China) The closest integer to  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{17 - 12\sqrt{2}}}$  is:  
 (A) 5 (B) 6 (C) 7 (D) 8
5. (2003 Middle School Math Contest, Tianjun City, China) Simplify:  $2\sqrt{4 + 2\sqrt{3}} - \sqrt{21 - 12\sqrt{3}}$ .  
 (A)  $5 - 4\sqrt{3}$  (B)  $4\sqrt{3} - 1$  (C) 5 (D) 1
6. (2010 Romanian Math Olympiad, Grade 7, Local Round, Giurgiu) Show that the number  

$$a = \sqrt{124 + 11\sqrt{12}} + \sqrt{28 - 5\sqrt{12}}$$
 is a perfect square.
7. (1993 New Mexico Mathematics Contest, #5)
  - (a) Find positive integers  $u$  and  $v$  satisfying  $\sqrt{18 - 2\sqrt{65}} = \sqrt{u} - \sqrt{v}$ .
  - (b) Find positive integers  $x$  and  $y$  satisfying:  $\sqrt{14 + 3\sqrt{3 + 2\sqrt{5 - 12\sqrt{3 - 2\sqrt{2}}}}} = x + \sqrt{y}$ .
8. (1990 AIME, #2) Find the value of  $(52 + 6\sqrt{43})^{3/2} - (52 - 6\sqrt{43})^{3/2}$ .
9. (2006 AIME I, #5) The number  $\sqrt{104\sqrt{6} + 468\sqrt{10} + 144\sqrt{15} + 2006}$  can be written as  $a\sqrt{2} + b\sqrt{3} + c\sqrt{5}$ , where  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are positive integers. Find  $abc$ .

10. (2005 USAMTS, Round 4, Problem 2/4/16) Find positive integers  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  such that:

$$\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b} + \sqrt{c} = \sqrt{219 + \sqrt{10080} + \sqrt{12600} + \sqrt{35280}}.$$

This problem is based on Problem 80 on page 42 of *Problems from the History of Mathematics*, by Levardi and Sain, a book published in Hungarian in Budapest in 1982. Problem 80 was attributed to the Indian mathematician Bhaskara (1114 - ca. 1185).

11. (2012 Exeter Math Club Competition, Individual Accuracy Test, #9) Let  $f(x) = \sqrt{2x + 1 + 2\sqrt{x^2 + x}}$ . Determine the value of

$$\frac{1}{f(1)} + \frac{1}{f(2)} + \frac{1}{f(3)} + \cdots + \frac{1}{f(24)}.$$

12. For any positive integer  $n$ , let  $f(n) = \frac{4n + \sqrt{4n^2 - 1}}{\sqrt{2n + 1} + \sqrt{2n - 1}}$ . Evaluate the sum  $f(1) + f(2) + \cdots + f(40)$ .

13. (2005 AIME II, #7) Let  $x = \frac{4}{(\sqrt{5} + 1)(\sqrt[4]{5} + 1)(\sqrt[8]{5} + 1)(\sqrt[16]{5} + 1)}$ . Find  $(x + 1)^{48}$ .

14. (1975 AMC 12, #29) What is the smallest integer larger than  $(\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{2})^6$ ?

(A) 972 (B) 971 (C) 970 (D) 969 (E) 968

15. (2005 UK Senior Mathematical Challenge, #25) Which of the following is equal to  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2005 + \sqrt{2005^2 - 1}}}$ ?

(A)  $\sqrt{1003} - \sqrt{1002}$  (B)  $\sqrt{1005} - \sqrt{1004}$  (C)  $\sqrt{1007} - \sqrt{1005}$  (D)  $\sqrt{2005} - \sqrt{2003}$  (E)  $\sqrt{2007} - \sqrt{2005}$

16. (1992 UK National Mathematics Contest, #25) If  $x = \sqrt{1 + 1992^2 + \frac{1992^2}{1993^2}} + \frac{1992}{1993}$ , then which statement is true?

(A)  $1992 < x < 1993$  (B)  $x = 1993$  (C)  $1993 < x < 1994$  (D)  $x = 1994$  (E)  $x > 1994$

17. (1974 AMC 12, #20) Let  $T = \frac{1}{3 - \sqrt{8}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{8} - \sqrt{7}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{7} - \sqrt{6}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{5}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{5} - 2}$ . Then:

(A)  $T < 1$  (B)  $T = 1$  (C)  $1 < T < 2$  (D)  $T > 2$

(E)  $T = \frac{1}{(3 - \sqrt{8})(\sqrt{8} - \sqrt{7})(\sqrt{7} - \sqrt{6})(\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{5})(\sqrt{5} - 2)}$

18. (1976 AMC 12, #27) If  $N = \frac{\sqrt{\sqrt{5}+2} + \sqrt{\sqrt{5}-2}}{\sqrt{\sqrt{5}+1}} - \sqrt{3-2\sqrt{2}}$ , then  $N$  equals:

- (A) 1 (B)  $2\sqrt{2} - 1$  (C)  $\frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}$  (D)  $\sqrt{\frac{5}{2}}$  (E) none of these

19. (2009 Georgia Tech High School Math Contest, Junior Varsity Multiple Choice, #1) Simplify:

$$\frac{\sqrt{\sqrt{10}-3} + \sqrt{\sqrt{10}+3}}{\sqrt{\sqrt{10}+1}}.$$

- (A) 1 (B)  $\sqrt{2}$  (C)  $\sqrt{3}$  (D) 2 (E)  $2\sqrt{2}$

20. (2012 Louisiana State University Math Contest, Open Session, #17)  $f(x) = x^2 + \sqrt{x^4+1} + \frac{1}{x^2 - \sqrt{x^4+1}}$ . Find  $f(2011^{2012})$ .

21. (1991 AMC 12, #27) If  $x + \sqrt{x^2-1} + \frac{1}{x - \sqrt{x^2-1}} = 20$ , then  $x^2 + \sqrt{x^4-1} + \frac{1}{x^2 + \sqrt{x^4-1}} =$

- (A) 5.05 (B) 20 (C) 51.005 (D) 61.25 (E) 400

22. (2018 Awesome Math Summer Program, Admission Test C, #5) Let  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  be positive real numbers such that

$$\sqrt{a} + 9\sqrt{b} + 44\sqrt{c} = \sqrt{2018(a+b+c)}.$$

Evaluate  $\frac{b+c}{a}$ .

23. (1980 AMC 12, #27) The sum  $\sqrt[3]{5+2\sqrt{13}} + \sqrt[3]{5-2\sqrt{13}}$  equals:

- (A)  $\frac{3}{2}$  (B)  $\frac{\sqrt[3]{65}}{4}$  (C)  $\frac{1+\sqrt[6]{13}}{2}$  (D)  $\sqrt[3]{2}$  (E) none of these

24. Simplify:  $\sqrt[3]{\sqrt{\frac{980}{27}} + 6} - \sqrt[3]{\sqrt{\frac{980}{27}} - 6}$ .

25. (1943 Gazeta Matematica, Romania) Find  $\sqrt[3]{20+14\sqrt{2}} + \sqrt[3]{20-14\sqrt{2}}$ .

26. (1971 Revista Matematica a Elevilor din Timisoara, Romania, proposed by Titu Andreescu)

(a)  $\sqrt[5]{41+29\sqrt{2}} + \sqrt[5]{41-29\sqrt{2}} = 2$ .

(b)  $\sqrt[6]{26+15\sqrt{3}} + \sqrt[6]{26-15\sqrt{3}} = 6$ .

27. (1963 AMC 12, #40) If  $x$  is a number satisfying the equation  $\sqrt[3]{x+9} - \sqrt[3]{x-9} = 3$ , then  $x^2$  is between:

- (A) 55 and 65    (B) 65 and 75    (C) 75 and 85    (D) 85 and 95    (E) 95 and 105

28. (1997 ARML, Individual Contest, #8) If  $\sqrt[3]{\sqrt[3]{2}-1}$  is written as  $\sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{b} + \sqrt[3]{c}$ , where  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are rational numbers, compute the sum  $a + b + c$ .

29. (2004 UK Senior Math Challenge, #25) Positive integers  $x$  and  $y$  satisfy the equation

$$\sqrt{x + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{y}} - \sqrt{x - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{y}} = 1.$$

Which of the following is a possible value of  $y$ ?

- (A) 5    (B) 6    (C) 7    (D) 8    (E) 9

30. (2018 Awesome Math Summer Program, Admission Test C, #3(a)) Solve in positive real numbers the equation:

$$x - \sqrt{2018 + \sqrt{x}} = 4.$$

31. (1983 AIME, #3) What is the product of the real roots of the equation  $x^2 + 18x + 30 = 2\sqrt{x^2 + 18x + 45}$ ?

32. (1991 AIME, #7) Find  $A^2$ , where  $A$  is the sum of the absolute values of all roots of the following equation:

$$x = \sqrt{19} + \frac{91}{\sqrt{19} + \frac{91}{\sqrt{19} + \frac{91}{\sqrt{19} + \frac{91}{\sqrt{19} + \frac{91}{x}}}}}.$$

33. (1987 British Mathematical Olympiad, #1) Find all real solutions  $x$  of the equation:

$$\sqrt{x + 1972098 - 1986\sqrt{x + 986049}} + \sqrt{x + 1974085 - 1988\sqrt{x + 986049}} = 1.$$

34. Solve the equation:  $\sqrt[3]{x+1} + \sqrt[3]{4x+7} = \sqrt[3]{3x+5} + \sqrt[3]{2x+3}$ .

35. Solve the equation:  $\sqrt[5]{x + \sqrt{x^2 + 32}} + \sqrt[5]{x - \sqrt{x^2 + 32}} = 2$ .