College Admission **VPT**

Virginia Placement Test



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Question: 1

What is the value of $2x^2 + 5x - y^2$ when x = 3 and y = 5?

- A. -4
- B. 8
- C. 16
- D. 72

Answer: B

Explanation:

To evaluate the expression for the given values of x and y, substitute the values into the expression and then calculate the result:

$$2x^{2} + 5x - y^{2} = 2(3)^{2} + 5(3) - (5)^{2}$$
$$= 2 \cdot 9 + 5 \cdot 3 - 25$$
$$= 18 + 15 - 25$$
$$= 8$$

Question: 2

$$(y^2 + 9y - 2) + (4y^2 - y - 5) =$$

A.
$$5y^2 + 8y - 7$$

B.
$$5y^2 + 8y + 10$$

C.
$$5y^2 + 10y - 7$$

D.
$$5y^2 + 10y + 10$$

Answer: A

Explanation:

To add quadratic expressions, combine like terms. In this problem, there are three sets of like terms: the y^2 -terms, the y-terms, and the constants. Set up the addition vertically, making sure to line up like terms, and then add them together:

$$y^2 + 9y - 2$$

$$+4y^2 - y - 5$$

$$5y^2 + 8y - 7$$

Question: 3

If
$$x^2 + 5x = 6$$
, then $x = ?$

A. -6 or -1

B. -6 or 1

C. -1 or 6

D. 1 or 6

Answer: B

Explanation:

The given equation is a quadratic equation that can be solved by factorization. First, move everything to one side to get it in the correct form, by subtracting 6 from both sides:

$$x^2 + 5x = 6$$

$$x^2 + 5x - 6 = 0$$

This factors out to:

$$(x+6)(x-1)=0$$

Thus, the two solutions to the equation are x = -6 and x = 1.

Question: 4

What percent of 56 is 42?

A. 60%

B. 72.5%

C. 75%

D. 85%

Answer: C

Explanation:

A percent is a part divided by the whole $\left(\frac{part}{whole}\right)$. In this problem, the part is 42 and the whole is 56, so the ratio can be expressed as $\frac{42}{56}$, or 0.75:

$$\frac{42}{56} = 0.75 = 75\%$$

Question: 5

What is of 25?

A. 10

B. 11

C. 12

D. 14

Answer: D

Explanation:

19. D: First convert the percent to a decimal number by dividing it by 100, or, equivalently, by moving the decimal point places to the left:

56% = 0.56

Next, calculate 56% of 25 by multiplying 25 by 0.56:

 $0.56 \times 25 = 14$

Question: 6

Solve the following equation, $5(80 / 8) + (7 - 2) - (9 \times 5) =$

A. -150

B. 10

C. 100

D. 230

Answer: B

Explanation:

$$5 \times (80 / 8) + (7 - 2) - (9 \times 5) =$$

Remember the order of operations: Parentheses, exponents, multiplication, division, addition, subtraction.

Perform the operations inside the parentheses first:

$$5 \times (10) + (5) - (45) =$$

Then, do any multiplication and division, working from left to right:

Finally, do any adding or subtracting, working from left to right:

$$55 - 45 = 10$$

Question: 7

Solve the following equation, $\frac{4-(-12)}{-9+5} =$

A. -8

- B. -4
- C. -2
- D. 4

Answer: B

Explanation:

According to the order of operations (PEMDAS), first simplify the numerator and the denominator of the expression, then perform the division:

$$\frac{4 - (-12)}{-9 + 5} = \frac{4 + 12}{-9 + 5} = \frac{16}{-4} = -4$$

Question: 8

If x = 2y - 3 and $2x + \frac{1}{2}y = 3$, then y = ?

- A 3
- B. 1
- C. 2
- D. ¹⁸/₇

Answer: C

Explanation:

The given equations form a system of linear equations. Since the first equation is already given in terms of x, it will be easier to solve it using the substitution method. Start by substituting 2y-3 for x in the second equation:

$$2x + \frac{1}{2}y = 3 \qquad 2(2y - 3) + \frac{1}{2}y = 3$$

Next, solve the resulting equation for y. Distribute the 2 and then combine like y-terms in the result:

$$4y - 6 + \frac{1}{2}y = 3$$
 $\frac{9}{2}y - 6 = 3$

Finally, isolate the variable y by adding 6 to both sides and then dividing both sides by the coefficient of y, which is $\frac{9}{2}$ (or, equivalently, multiply by 2 and divide by 9):

$$\frac{9}{2}y = 9 \qquad y = 2$$

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