

4. If $a > 0$ and $b > 0$, show that

$$(i) \ a + \frac{1}{a} \geq 2$$

$$(ii) \ \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} \geq \frac{2}{a+b}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (x a) \quad a^2 + 1 &\geq 2a \\ a^2 - 2a + 1 &\geq 0 \\ (a-1)^2 &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Single
fraction

$$\frac{b+a}{ab} \geq \frac{2}{a+b}$$

$$(x LCD) \quad (a+b)(b+a) \geq 2ab$$

$$(a+b)^2 \geq 2ab$$

$$(a+b)^2 - 2ab \geq 0$$

$$a^2 + \cancel{2ab} + b^2 - \cancel{2ab} \geq 0$$

$$a^2 + b^2 \geq 0 \quad \text{true}$$

5. Prove that $a^2 - 6a + 9 + b^2 \geq 0$ for all real values of a and b .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{notice:} \\ (a-3)^2 \\ = a^2 - 6a + 9 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \quad a^2 - 6a + 9 + b^2 &\geq 0 \\ (a-3)^2 + b^2 &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

true

$$\begin{aligned} (a+b)^2 \\ = a^2 + 2ab + b^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (a-b)^2 \\ = a^2 - 2ab + b^2 \end{aligned}$$

9. Factorise $a^3 + b^3$.

Hence prove that $a^3 + b^3 > a^2b + ab^2$ for all real $a > 0$ and $b > 0$.

$$a^3 + b^3 = (a+b)(a^2 - ab + b^2) \quad * \quad \text{this must be learnt!}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 -a^2b - ab^2 &\Rightarrow a^3 + b^3 - a^2b - ab^2 > 0 \\
 & \underline{(a+b)}(\underline{a^2 - ab + b^2}) - \underline{ab}(\underline{a+b}) > 0 \\
 & (a+b)(a^2 - ab + b^2 - ab) > 0 \\
 & (a+b)(a^2 - 2ab + b^2) > 0 \\
 & (a+b)(a-b)^2 > 0 \\
 & \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{true}
 \end{aligned}$$

factorise

$$\begin{aligned}
 \cancel{(a+b)}(a^2 - ab + b^2) &> \cancel{(a+b)}ab \\
 a^2 - 2ab + b^2 &> 0 \\
 (a-b)^2 &> 0 \\
 &\qquad \qquad \qquad \text{true}
 \end{aligned}$$

or
thanks to
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