

1.4 SURDS

Any irrational number of the form $\sqrt[n]{a}$ is given a special name surd. Where 'a' is called radicand, it should always be a rational number. Also the symbol $\sqrt[n]{}$ is called the radical sign and the index n is called order of the surd.

$\sqrt[n]{a}$ is read as 'nth root a' and can also be written as $a^{\frac{1}{n}}$.

(a) Some Identical Surds :

(i) $\sqrt[3]{4}$ is a surd as radicand is a rational number.

Similar examples $\sqrt[3]{5}, \sqrt[4]{12}, \sqrt[5]{7}, \sqrt{12}, \dots$

(ii) $2\sqrt{3}$ is a surd (as surd + rational number will give a surd)

Similar examples $\sqrt{3} + 1, \sqrt[3]{3} + 1, \dots$

(iii) $\sqrt{7 - 4\sqrt{3}}$ is a surd as $7 - 4\sqrt{3}$ is a perfect square of $(2 - \sqrt{3})$

Similar examples $\sqrt{7 + 4\sqrt{3}}, \sqrt{9 - 4\sqrt{5}}, \sqrt{9 + 4\sqrt{5}}, \dots$

(i) $\sqrt[3]{\sqrt{3}}$ is a surd as $\sqrt[3]{\sqrt{3}} = \left(3^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}} = 3^{\frac{1}{6}} = \sqrt[6]{3}$

Similar examples $\sqrt[3]{\sqrt[3]{5}}, \sqrt[4]{\sqrt[5]{6}}, \dots$

(b) Some Expression are not Surds :

(i) $\sqrt[3]{8}$ because $\sqrt[3]{8} = \sqrt[3]{2^3} = 2$, which is a rational number.

(ii) $\sqrt{2 + \sqrt{3}}$ because $2 + \sqrt{3}$ is not a perfect square.

(iii) $\sqrt[3]{1 + \sqrt{3}}$ because radicand is an irrational number.

LAWS OF SURDS

(i) $(\sqrt[n]{a})^n = \sqrt[n]{a^n} = a$

e.g. (A) $\sqrt[3]{8} = \sqrt[3]{2^3} = 2$ (B) $\sqrt[4]{81} = \sqrt[4]{3^4} = 3$

$$(ii) \sqrt[n]{a} \times \sqrt[n]{b} = \sqrt[n]{ab} \quad [\text{Here order should be same}]$$

$$\text{e.g. (A)} \sqrt[3]{2} \times \sqrt[3]{6} = \sqrt[3]{2 \times 6} = \sqrt[3]{12}$$

$$\text{but, } \sqrt[3]{3} \times \sqrt[4]{6} \neq \sqrt{3 \times 6} \quad [\text{Because order is not same}]$$

1st make their order same and then you can multiply.

$$(iii) \sqrt[n]{a} \div \sqrt[n]{b} = \sqrt[n]{\frac{a}{b}}$$

$$(iv) \sqrt[n]{\sqrt[m]{a}} = \sqrt[nm]{a} = \sqrt[n]{\sqrt[m]{a}} \quad \text{e.g.} = \sqrt{\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt[8]{8}$$

$$(v) \sqrt[n]{a} = \sqrt[n \times p]{a^p} \quad [\text{Important for changing order of surds}]$$

$$\text{or, } \sqrt[n]{a^m} = \sqrt[n \times p]{a^{m \times p}}$$

$$\text{e.g. } \sqrt[3]{6^2} \text{ make its order 6, then } \sqrt[3]{6^2} = \sqrt[3 \times 2]{6^{2 \times 2}} = \sqrt[6]{6^4}.$$

$$\text{e.g. } \sqrt[3]{6} \text{ make its order 15, then } \sqrt[3]{6} = \sqrt[3 \times 5]{6^{1 \times 5}} = \sqrt[15]{6^5}.$$

OPERATION OF SURDS

(a) Addition and Subtraction of Surds :

Addition and subtraction of surds are possible only when order and radicand are same i.e. only for surds.

Ex.1 Simplify

$$\begin{aligned} (i) \sqrt{6} - \sqrt{216} + \sqrt{96} &= 15\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{6^2 \times 6} + \sqrt{16 \times 6} \\ &= 15\sqrt{6} - 6\sqrt{6} + 4\sqrt{6} \\ &= (15 - 6 + 4) \sqrt{6} \\ &= 13\sqrt{6} \end{aligned} \quad [\text{Bring surd in simple form}]$$

Ans.

$$\begin{aligned} (ii) 5\sqrt[3]{250} + 7\sqrt[3]{16} - 14\sqrt[3]{54} &= 5\sqrt[3]{125 \times 2} + 7\sqrt[3]{8 \times 2} - 14\sqrt[3]{27 \times 2} \\ &= 5 \times 5\sqrt[3]{2} + 7 \times 2\sqrt[3]{2} - 14 \times 3\sqrt[3]{2} \\ &= (25 + 14 - 42)\sqrt[3]{2} \\ &= -3\sqrt[3]{2} \end{aligned}$$

Ans.

$$\begin{aligned} (ii) 5\sqrt[3]{250} + 7\sqrt[3]{16} - 14\sqrt[3]{54} &= 5\sqrt[3]{125 \times 2} + 7\sqrt[3]{8 \times 2} - 14\sqrt[3]{27 \times 2} \\ &= 5 \times 5\sqrt[3]{2} + 7 \times 2\sqrt[3]{2} - 14 \times 3\sqrt[3]{2} \\ &= (25 + 14 - 42)\sqrt[3]{2} \\ &= -3\sqrt[3]{2} \end{aligned}$$

Ans.

$$\begin{aligned} (iii) 4\sqrt{3} + 3\sqrt{48} - \frac{5}{2}\sqrt{\frac{1}{3}} &= 4\sqrt{3} + 3\sqrt{16 \times 3} - \frac{5}{2}\sqrt{\frac{1 \times 3}{3 \times 3}} \\ &= 4\sqrt{3} + 3 \times 4\sqrt{3} - \frac{5}{2} \times \frac{1}{3}\sqrt{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$= 4\sqrt{3} + 12\sqrt{3} - \frac{5}{6}\sqrt{3}$$

$$= \left(4 + 12 - \frac{5}{6}\right)\sqrt{3}$$

$$= \frac{91}{6}\sqrt{3}$$

Ans.

(b) Multiplication and Division of Surds :

Ex.2 (i) $\sqrt[3]{4} \times \sqrt[3]{22} = \sqrt[3]{4 \times 22} = \sqrt[3]{2^3 \times 11} = 2\sqrt[3]{11}$

(ii) $\sqrt[3]{2} \times \sqrt[4]{3} = \sqrt[12]{2^4} \times \sqrt[12]{3^3} = \sqrt[12]{2^4 \times 3^3} = \sqrt[12]{16 \times 27} = \sqrt[12]{432}$

Ex.3 Simplify $\sqrt{8a^5b} \times \sqrt[3]{4a^2b^2}$

Hint : $\sqrt[6]{8^3 a^{15} b^3} \times \sqrt[6]{4^2 a^4 b^4} = \sqrt[6]{2^{13} a^{19} b^7} = \sqrt[6]{2ab}$.

Ans.

Ex.4 Divide $\sqrt{24} \div \sqrt[3]{200} = \frac{\sqrt{24}}{\sqrt[3]{200}} = \frac{\sqrt{(24)^3}}{\sqrt[6]{(200)^2}} = \sqrt[6]{\frac{216}{625}}$

Ans..

(c) Comparison of Surds :

It is clear that if $x > y > 0$ and $n > 1$ is a positive integer then $\sqrt[n]{x} > \sqrt[n]{y}$.

Ex.5 $\sqrt[3]{16} > \sqrt[3]{12}, \sqrt[5]{35} > \sqrt[5]{25}$ and so on.

Ex.6 Which is greater is each of the following :

(i) $\sqrt[3]{16}$ and $\sqrt[5]{8}$

(ii) $\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}$ and $\sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{3}}$

L.C.M. of 3 and 5 is 15.

L.C.M. of 2 and 3 is 6.

$$\sqrt[3]{6} = \sqrt[3 \times 5]{6^5} = \sqrt[15]{7776}$$

$$\sqrt[6]{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3} \text{ and } \sqrt[3]{\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2}$$

$$\sqrt[5]{8} = \sqrt[3 \times 5]{8^5} = \sqrt[15]{512}$$

$$\sqrt[6]{\frac{1}{8}} \text{ and } \sqrt[6]{\frac{1}{9}} \quad \left[\text{As } 8 < 9 \therefore \frac{1}{8} > \frac{1}{9} \right]$$

$$\therefore \sqrt[15]{7776} > \sqrt[15]{512}$$

$$\text{so, } \sqrt[6]{\frac{1}{8}} > \sqrt[6]{\frac{1}{9}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt[3]{6} > \sqrt[5]{8}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} > \sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{3}}$$

Ex.7 Arrange $\sqrt{2}$, $\sqrt[3]{3}$ and $\sqrt[4]{5}$ in ascending order.

Sol. L.C.M. of 2, 3, 4 is 12.

$$\therefore \sqrt{2} = \sqrt[2 \times 6]{2^6} = \sqrt[12]{64}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{3} = \sqrt[3 \times 4]{3^4} = \sqrt[12]{81}$$

$$\sqrt[4]{5} = \sqrt[4 \times 3]{5^3} = \sqrt[12]{125}$$

As, $64 < 81 < 125$.

$$\therefore \sqrt[12]{64} < \sqrt[12]{81} < \sqrt[12]{125}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{2} < \sqrt[3]{3} < \sqrt[4]{5}$$

Ex.8 Which is greater $\sqrt{7} - \sqrt{3}$ or $\sqrt{5} - 1$?

Sol.
$$\sqrt{7} - \sqrt{3} = \frac{(\sqrt{7} - \sqrt{3})(\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{3})}{(\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{3})} = \frac{7-3}{\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{3}} = \frac{4}{\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{3}}$$

And,
$$\sqrt{5} - 1 = \frac{(\sqrt{5} - 1)(\sqrt{5} + 1)}{(\sqrt{5} + 1)} = \frac{5-1}{\sqrt{5} + 1} = \frac{4}{\sqrt{5} + 1}$$

Now, we know that $\sqrt{7} > \sqrt{5}$ and $\sqrt{3} > 1$, add

So, $\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{3} > \sqrt{5} + 1$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{3}} < \frac{1}{\sqrt{5} + 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{4}{\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{3}} < \frac{4}{\sqrt{5} + 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{7} - \sqrt{3} < \sqrt{5} - 1$$

So, $\sqrt{5} - 1 > \sqrt{7} - \sqrt{3}$

RATIONALIZATION OF SURDS

Rationalizing factor product of two surds is a rational number then each of them is called the rationalizing factor (R.F.) of the other. The process of converting a surd to a rational number by using an appropriate multiplier is known as **rationalization**.

Some examples :

(i) R.F. of \sqrt{a} is \sqrt{a} ($\therefore \sqrt{a} \times \sqrt{a} = a$).

(ii) R.F. of $\sqrt[3]{a}$ is $\sqrt[3]{a^2}$ ($\therefore \sqrt[3]{a} \times \sqrt[3]{a^2} = \sqrt[3]{a^3} = a$).

(iii) R.F. of $\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b}$ is $\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b}$ & vice versa $\left[\because (\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b})(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b}) = a - b \right]$.

(iv) R.F. of $a + \sqrt{b}$ is $a - \sqrt{b}$ & vice versa $\left[\because (a + \sqrt{b})(a - \sqrt{b}) = a^2 - b \right]$

(v) R.F. of $\sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{b}$ is $\left(\sqrt[3]{a^2} - \sqrt[3]{ab} + \sqrt[3]{b^2} \right) \left[\because (\sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{b})(\sqrt[3]{a^2} - \sqrt[3]{ab} + \sqrt[3]{b^2}) \right]$

$\left[\because (\sqrt[3]{a})^3 + (\sqrt[3]{b})^3 = a + b \right]$ which is rational.

(vi) R.F. of $(\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b} + \sqrt{c})(\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b} - \sqrt{c})$ and $(a + b - c + 2\sqrt{ab})$

Ex.9 Find the R.G. (rationalizing factor) of the following :

(i) $\sqrt{10}$ (ii) $\sqrt{12}$ (iii) $\sqrt{162}$ (iv) $\sqrt[3]{4}$ (v) $\sqrt[3]{16}$ (vi) $\sqrt[4]{162}$ (vii) $2 + \sqrt{3}$

(viii) $7 - 4\sqrt{3}$ (ix) $3\sqrt{3} + 2\sqrt{2}$ (x) $\sqrt[3]{3} + \sqrt[3]{2}$ (xi) $1 + \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}$

(i) $\sqrt{10}$

Sol. $\left[\because \sqrt{10} \times \sqrt{10} = \sqrt{10 \times 10} = 10 \right]$ as 10 is rational number.

\therefore R.F. of $\sqrt{10}$ is $\sqrt{10}$ **Ans.**

(ii). $\sqrt{12}$

Sol. First write it's simplest form i.e. $2\sqrt{3}$.

Now find R.F. (i.e. R.F. of $\sqrt{3}$ is $\sqrt{3}$)

\therefore R.F. of $\sqrt{12}$ is $\sqrt{3}$ **Ans.**

(iii) $\sqrt{162}$

Sol. Simplest form of $\sqrt{162}$ is $9\sqrt{2}$.

R.F. of $\sqrt{2}$ is $\sqrt{2}$.

\therefore R.F. of $\sqrt{162}$ is $\sqrt{2}$ **Ans.**

(iv) $\sqrt[3]{4}$

Sol. $\sqrt[3]{4} \times \sqrt[3]{4^2} = \sqrt[3]{4^3} = 4$

\therefore R.F. of $\sqrt[3]{4}$ is $\sqrt[3]{4^2}$ **Ans.**

(v). $\sqrt[3]{16}$

Sol. Simplest form of $\sqrt[3]{16}$ is $2\sqrt[3]{2}$

Now R.F. of $\sqrt[3]{2}$ is $\sqrt[3]{2^2}$

\therefore R.F. of $\sqrt[3]{16}$ is $\sqrt[3]{2^2}$ **Ans.**

(vi) $\sqrt[4]{162}$

Sol. Simplest form of $\sqrt[4]{162}$ is $3\sqrt[4]{2}$

Now R.F. of $\sqrt[4]{2}$ is $\sqrt[4]{2^3}$

R.F. of $(\sqrt[4]{162})$ is $\sqrt[4]{2^3}$ **Ans.**

(vii) $2 + \sqrt{3}$

Sol. As $(2 + \sqrt{3})(2 - \sqrt{3}) = (2)^2 - (\sqrt{3})^2 = 4 - 3 = 1$, which is rational.

\therefore R.F. of $(2 + \sqrt{3})$ is $(2 - \sqrt{3})$ **Ans.**

(viii) $7 - 4\sqrt{3}$

Sol. As $(7 - 4\sqrt{3})(7 + 4\sqrt{3}) = (7)^2 - (4 - \sqrt{3})^2 = 49 - 48 = 1$, which is rational

\therefore R.F. of $(7 - 4\sqrt{3})$ is $(7 + 4\sqrt{3})$ **Ans.**

(ix). $3\sqrt{3} + 2\sqrt{2}$

Sol. As $(3\sqrt{3} + 2\sqrt{2})(3\sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{2}) = (3\sqrt{3})^2 - (2\sqrt{2})^2 = 27 - 8 = 19$, which is rational.

\therefore R.F. of $(3\sqrt{3} + 2\sqrt{2})$ is $(3\sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{2})$ **Ans.**

(x) $\sqrt[3]{3} + \sqrt[3]{2}$

Sol. As $(\sqrt[3]{3} + \sqrt[3]{2})(\sqrt[3]{3^2} - \sqrt[3]{3} \times \sqrt[3]{2} + \sqrt[3]{2^2}) = (\sqrt[3]{3^3} + \sqrt[3]{2^3}) = 3 + 2 = 5$, which is rational.

\therefore R.F. of $(\sqrt[3]{3} + \sqrt[3]{2})$ is $(\sqrt[3]{3^2} - \sqrt[3]{3} \times \sqrt[3]{2} + \sqrt[3]{2^2})$ **Ans.**

(xi) $1 + \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}$

Sol. $(1 + \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3})(1 + \sqrt{2} - \sqrt{3}) = (1 + \sqrt{2})^2 - (\sqrt{3})^2$
 $= 1^2 + (\sqrt{2})^2 + 2(1)(\sqrt{2}) - 3$
 $= 1 + 2 + 2\sqrt{2} - 3$
 $= 3 + 2\sqrt{2} - 3$
 $= 2\sqrt{2}$

$2\sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{2} = 2 \times 2 = 4$

\therefore R.F. of $1 + \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}$ is $(1 + \sqrt{2} - \sqrt{3})$ and $\sqrt{2}$. **Ans.**

NOTE: R.F. of $\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b}$ or $\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b}$ type surds are also called conjugate surds & vice versa.

Ex.10 (i) $2 - \sqrt{3}$ is conjugate of $2 + \sqrt{3}$

(ii) $\sqrt{5} + 1$ is conjugate of $\sqrt{5} - 1$

NOTE : Sometimes conjugate surds and reciprocals are same.

Ex.11 (i) $2 + \sqrt{3}$, it's conjugate is $2 - \sqrt{3}$, its reciprocal is $2 - \sqrt{3}$ & vice versa.

(ii) $5 - 2\sqrt{6}$, it's conjugate is $5 + 2\sqrt{6}$, its reciprocal is $5 - 2\sqrt{6}$ & vice versa.

(iii) $6 - \sqrt{35}, 6 + \sqrt{35}$

(iv) $7 - 4\sqrt{3}, 7 + 4\sqrt{3}$

(v) $8 + 3\sqrt{7}, 8 - 3\sqrt{7}$ and so on.

Ex.12 Express the following surd with a rational denominator.

Sol.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{8}{\sqrt{15} + 1 - \sqrt{5} - \sqrt{3}} &= \frac{8}{[(\sqrt{15} + 1) - (\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3})]} \times \left[\frac{(\sqrt{15} + 1) + (\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3})}{[(\sqrt{15} + 1) + (\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3})]} \right] \\&= \frac{8(\sqrt{15} + 1 + \sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3})}{(\sqrt{15} + 1)^2 - (\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3})^2} \\&= \frac{8(\sqrt{15} + 1 + \sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3})}{15 + 1 + 2\sqrt{15} - (5 + 3 + 2\sqrt{15})} \\&= \frac{8(\sqrt{15} + 1 + \sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3})}{8} \\&= (\sqrt{15} + 1 + \sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3})\end{aligned}$$

Ans.

Ex.13 Rationalize the denominator of $\frac{a^2}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} + b}$

Sol.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{a^2}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} + b} &= \frac{a^2}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} + b} \times \frac{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} - b}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} - b} \\&= \frac{a^2(\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} - b)}{(\sqrt{a^2 + b^2})^2 - (b)^2} \\&= \frac{a^2(\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} - b)}{a^2 + b^2 - b^2} = (\sqrt{a^2 + b^2} - b)\end{aligned}$$

Ans.

Ex.14 If $\frac{3+2\sqrt{2}}{3-\sqrt{2}} = a + b\sqrt{2}$, where a and b are rational then find the values of a and b.

Sol. L.H.S. $\frac{3+2\sqrt{2}}{3-\sqrt{2}} = \frac{(3+2\sqrt{2})(3+\sqrt{2})}{(3-\sqrt{2})(3+\sqrt{2})}$

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

$$= \frac{13+9\sqrt{2}}{7}$$

$$= \frac{13}{7} + \frac{9}{7}\sqrt{2}$$

$\therefore \frac{13}{7} + \frac{9}{7}\sqrt{2} = a + b\sqrt{2}$

Equating the rational and irrational parts

We get $a = \frac{13}{7}, b = \frac{9}{7}$ **Ans.**

Ex.15 If $\sqrt{3} = 1.732$, find the value of $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}-1}$

Sol. $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}-1} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}+1}{\sqrt{3}+1}$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{3}+1}{3-1}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{3}+1}{2}$$

$$= \frac{1.732+1}{2}$$

$$= \frac{2.732}{2}$$

$$= 1.366$$

Ans.

Ex.16 If $\sqrt{5} = 2.236$ and $\sqrt{2} = 1.414$, then

Evaluate: $\frac{3}{\sqrt{5}+\sqrt{2}} + \frac{4}{\sqrt{5}-\sqrt{2}}$

Sol. $\frac{3}{\sqrt{5}+\sqrt{2}} + \frac{4}{\sqrt{5}-\sqrt{2}} = \frac{3\sqrt{5}-\sqrt{2}+4(\sqrt{5}+\sqrt{2})}{(\sqrt{5}-\sqrt{2})(\sqrt{5}+\sqrt{2})}$

$$= \frac{3\sqrt{5}-3\sqrt{2}+4\sqrt{5}+4\sqrt{2}}{5-2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{7\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{2}}{5-2} \\
 &= \frac{7\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{2}}{3} \\
 &= \frac{7 \times 2.236 + 1.414}{3} \\
 &= \frac{15.652 + 1.414}{3} \\
 &= \frac{17.066}{3} \\
 &= 5.689 \text{ (approximate)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Ex.17 If $x = \frac{1}{2+\sqrt{3}}$ find the value of $x^3 - x^2 - 11x + 3$.

Sol. As, $x = \frac{1}{2+\sqrt{3}} = 2 - \sqrt{3}$

$$\Rightarrow x - 2 = -\sqrt{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow (x - 2)^2 = (-\sqrt{3})^2 \quad [\text{By squaring both sides}]$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + 4 - 4x = 3$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - 4x + 1 = 0$$

Now, $x^3 - x^2 - 11x + 3 = x^3 - 4x^2 + x + 3x^2 - 12x + 3$

$$= x(x^2 - 4x + 1) + 3(x^2 - 4x + 1)$$

$$= x(0) + 3(0)$$

$$= 0 + 0 = 0$$

Ans.

Ex.18 If $x = 3 - \sqrt{8}$, find the value of $x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3}$.

Sol. $x = 3 - \sqrt{8}$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{3 - \sqrt{8}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{x} = 3 + \sqrt{8}$$

Now, $x + \frac{1}{x} = 3 - \sqrt{8} + 3 + \sqrt{8} = 6$

$$\Rightarrow x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3} = \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^3 - 3x \cdot \frac{1}{x} \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3} = (6)^3 - 3(6)$$

$$\Rightarrow x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3} = 216 - 18$$

$$\Rightarrow x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3} = 198 \quad \text{Ans.}$$

Ex.19 If $x = 1 + 2^{1/3} + 2^{2/3}$, show that $x^3 - 3x^2 - 3x - 1 = 0$

Sol.

$$\begin{aligned} x &= 1 + 2^{1/3} + 2^{2/3} \\ \Rightarrow x - 1 &= (2^{1/3} + 2^{2/3}) \\ \Rightarrow (x - 1)^3 &= (2^{1/3} + 2^{2/3})^3 \\ \Rightarrow (x - 1)^3 &= (2^{1/3})^3 + (2^{2/3})^3 + 3 \cdot 2^{1/3} \cdot 2^{2/3} (2^{1/3} + 2^{2/3}) \\ \Rightarrow (x - 1)^3 &= 2 + 2^2 + 3 \cdot 2^1 (x - 1) \\ \Rightarrow (x - 1)^3 &= 6 + 6(x - 1) \\ \Rightarrow x^3 - 3x^2 + 3x - 1 &= 6x \\ \Rightarrow x^3 - 3x^2 - 3x - 1 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Ans.

Ex.20 Solve : $\sqrt{x+3} + \sqrt{x-2} = 5$.

Sol.

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{x+3} &= 5 - \sqrt{x-2} \\ \Rightarrow (\sqrt{x+3})^2 &= (5 - \sqrt{x-2})^2 && \text{[By squaring both sides]} \\ \Rightarrow x + 3 &= 25 + (x - 2) - 10\sqrt{x-2} \\ \Rightarrow x + 3 &= 25 + x - 2 - 10\sqrt{x-2} \\ \Rightarrow 3 - 23 &= -10\sqrt{x-2} \\ \Rightarrow -20 &= -10\sqrt{x-2} \\ \Rightarrow 2 &= \sqrt{x-2} \\ \Rightarrow x - 2 &= 4 && \text{[By squaring both sides]} \\ \Rightarrow x &= 6 \end{aligned}$$

Ans.

Ex.21 If $x = 1 + \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}$, prove that $x^4 - 4x^3 - 4x^2 + 16 - 8 = 0$.

Hint :

$$\begin{aligned} x &= 1 + \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3} \\ \Rightarrow x - 1 &= \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3} \\ \Rightarrow (x - 1)^2 &= (\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3})^2 && \text{[By squaring both sides]} \\ \Rightarrow x^2 + 1 - 2x &= 2 + 3 + 2\sqrt{6} \\ \Rightarrow x^2 - 2x - 4 &= 2\sqrt{6} \\ \Rightarrow (x^2 - 2x - 4)^2 &= (2\sqrt{6})^2 \\ \Rightarrow x^4 + 4x^2 + 16 - 4x^3 + 16x - 8x^2 &= 24 \\ \Rightarrow x^4 - 4x^3 - 4x^2 + 16x + 16 - 24 &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow x^4 - 4x^3 - 4x^2 + 16x - 8 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Ans.