Name _____ Date _____

WORKSHEET 5.2: IDENTIFYING SIMILAR TERMS

Similar terms are exactly the same except for their coefficients.

EXAMPLES OF SIMILAR TERMS

$3x$ and $-x$; $7xy$ and $6yx$; $2\frac{3}{4}a^2$ and $6a^2$; $\frac{1}{2}x^2$ and $4x^2$; ab and $3ab$; $10ab$ and $-2ab$

EXAMPLES OF TERMS THAT ARE NOT SIMILAR

$3x$ and $3x^2$; $\frac{2}{3}a^2$ and $3ab$; $4a$ and $9b^2$; $4ab$ and $4a$; $-3x^2y$ and $-3xy^2$; $10a$ and $10ab$

DIRECTIONS: Every term is similar to another term below. Identify each pair of similar terms.

$3x$; $\frac{1}{5}x^2$; $-x^2$; $6a$; $8ab$; $7x$; $6a^2b$; $2ba$; $\frac{1}{4}a^2b$; $3x^2y$; $-a$; $6x^2y$

CHALLENGE: Are $3x$ and $3x^1$ similar terms? Explain your reasoning.

Name Answer Key Date

WORKSHEET 5.2: IDENTIFYING SIMILAR TERMS

Similar terms are exactly the same except for their coefficients.

★ Every term has a coefficient. If none is written, the coefficient is 1.

EXAMPLES OF SIMILAR TERMS

$3x$ and $-x$; $7xy$ and $6yx$; $2\frac{3}{4}a^2$ and $6a^2$; $\frac{1}{2}x^2$ and $4x^2$; ab and $3ab$; $10ab$ and $-2ab$

EXAMPLES OF TERMS THAT ARE NOT SIMILAR

$3x$ and $3x^2$; $\frac{2}{3}a^2$ and $3ab$; $4a$ and $9b^2$; $4ab$ and $4a$; $-3x^2y$ and $-3xy^2$; $10a$ and $10ab$

DIRECTIONS: Every term is similar to another term below. Identify each pair of similar terms.

$3x$; $\frac{1}{5}x^2$; $-x^2$; $6a$; $8ab$; $7x$; $6a^2b$; $2ba$; $\frac{1}{4}a^2b$; $3x^2y$; $-a$; $6x^2y$

$3x$ and $7x = 10x$

$\frac{1}{5}x^2$ and $-x^2 = -\frac{4}{5}x^2$

$6a$ and $-a = 5a$

$8ab$ and $2ba = 10ab$

$6a^2b$ and $\frac{1}{4}a^2b = 6\frac{1}{4}a^2b$

$3x^2y$ and $6x^2y = 9x^2y$

CHALLENGE: Are $3x$ and $3x^1$ similar terms? Explain your reasoning.

They are similar because any number raised to the power of 1 is that same number.

$3x^1 = 3x$