

Sec. 11.3

For what values of the variable is each rational expression undefined?
 Set denominator = 0 and solve

a. $\frac{10x}{x-3} = 0$
 $\begin{array}{r} x-3 = 0 \\ +3 \quad +3 \\ \hline \end{array}$
 $x=3$

b. $\frac{r-6}{r} = 0$
 $r=0$

c. $\frac{k-3}{5-k} = 0$
 $k=5$

d. $\frac{x+1}{x^2-3x+2} = 0$
 $(x-1)(x-2) = 0$
 $\begin{array}{r} x-1 = 0 \\ +1 \quad +1 \\ \hline \end{array}$
 $\begin{array}{r} x-2 = 0 \\ +2 \quad +2 \\ \hline \end{array}$
 $x=1$
 $x=2$

Simplify each expression and state any restrictions on the variables.

a. $\frac{x^2 + 5x}{x^2 + 2x - 15} \stackrel{1 \cdot 15}{3 \cdot 5} = \frac{\cancel{x(x+5)}}{\cancel{(x+5)}(x-3)} = 0$

$\frac{x}{x-3}, x \neq -5$
 $x \neq 3$

$x+5=0$ $x-3=0$
 $-5-5$ $+3+3$
 $x \neq 5$ $x \neq 3$

b. $\frac{-(a+1)}{a^2 + 8a + 7} \stackrel{1 \cdot 7}{1 \cdot 7} = \frac{-\cancel{(a+1)}}{\cancel{(a+1)}(a+7)} = 0$

$\frac{-1}{a+7}, a \neq -1, -7$

$a+1=0$ $a+7=0$
 $-1-1$ $-7-7$
 $a=-1$ $a=-7$