

This quiz is worth 10 points, and you have 10 minutes to complete it.

Calculators are NOT allowed today.

1. (5 pts) If a is positive and b is negative, write the expression $|ab|$ so that it does not involve any absolute values. Briefly explain your answer. (Your answer will of course still involve the letters a and b .)

2. (5 pts) Simplify the following expression until it is a simple fraction (i.e. simplify until it is in the form $\frac{A}{B}$ for some expressions A and B that do not themselves involve fractions). Show your work.

$$\frac{x^2 - 1}{\frac{1}{x+1} - \frac{1}{x}}$$

2 points extra credit: What is the secret word? (This word is explained on the class syllabus.)