

1.  $\frac{x-2}{2x^2-5x+3} + \frac{3x-1}{2x^2+x-6} + \frac{2x^2-5}{x^2+x-2}$  을 계산하여라.

▶ 답:

▷ 정답: 2

해설

$$\begin{aligned}& (\text{준식}) \\&= \frac{x-2}{(2x-3)(x-1)} + \frac{3x-1}{(2x-3)(x+2)} + \frac{2x^2-5}{x^2+x-2} \\&= \frac{(x-2)(x+2) + (3x-1)(x-1)}{(2x-3)(x-1)(x+2)} + \frac{2x^2-5}{(x+2)(x-1)} \\&= \frac{4x^2-4x-3}{(2x-3)(x-1)(x+2)} + \frac{2x^2-5}{(x+2)(x-1)} \\&= \frac{(2x-3)(2x+1)}{(2x-3)(x+2)(x-1)} + \frac{2x^2-5}{(x+2)(x-1)} \\&= \frac{2x+1}{(x+2)(x-1)} + \frac{2x^2-5}{(x+2)(x-1)} \\&= \frac{2x^2+2x-4}{(x+2)(x-1)} = 2\end{aligned}$$

2. 분수식  $\frac{1}{x^2 + x - 2} - \frac{x + 1}{x^2 - 4x + 3} \div \frac{2x^2 + 5x + 3}{x^2 - 5x + 6}$  을 간단히 하면 ?

① 1

② -2

③  $\frac{-x^2 + 2x + 7}{(x-1)(x+2)(2x+3)}$

④  $\frac{x^2 - 2x + 7}{(x-1)(x+2)(2x+3)}$

⑤  $\frac{-x^2 + 2x + 7}{(x+1)(x-2)(2x-3)}$

해설

$$\frac{1}{x^2 + x - 2} - \frac{x + 1}{x^2 - 4x + 3} \div \frac{2x^2 + 5x + 3}{x^2 - 5x + 6}$$

$$= \frac{1}{(x+2)(x-1)} - \frac{x+1}{(x-3)(x-1)}$$

$$\times \frac{(x-2)(x-3)}{(2x+3)(x+1)}$$

$$= \frac{2x+3-(x-2)(x+2)}{(x+2)(x-1)(2x+3)}$$

$$= \frac{-x^2 + 2x + 7}{(x-1)(x+2)(2x+3)}$$

3.  $\frac{x+1}{x(x-1)} = \frac{a}{x} + \frac{b}{x-1}$   $\nabla$   $x$ 에 대한 항등식일 때, 상수  $a^2 + b^2$ 의 값을 구하여라.

▶ 답:

▷ 정답: 5

해설

$$\frac{x+1}{x(x-1)} = \frac{(a+b)x-a}{x(x-1)}$$

따라서,  $a+b=1$ ,  $a=-1$

$\therefore a=-1$ ,  $b=2$

$$\therefore a^2+b^2=(-1)^2+2^2=5$$

4. 분수식  $\frac{1}{x(x+1)} + \frac{1}{(x+1)(x+2)}$  을 간단히 하면?

①  $\frac{2}{x(x+1)}$       ②  $\frac{1}{x(x+2)}$       ③  $\frac{1}{x(x+1)}$   
④  $\frac{2}{x(x+2)}$       ⑤  $\frac{3}{x(x+2)}$

해설

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{x(x+1)} &= \frac{1}{(x+1)-x} \left( \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x+1} \right) \\&= \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x+1} \\ \frac{1}{(x+1)(x+2)} &= \frac{1}{(x+2)-(x+1)} \left( \frac{1}{x+1} - \frac{1}{x+2} \right) \\&= \frac{1}{x+1} - \frac{1}{x+2} \\ \therefore (\text{준식}) &= \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x+1} + \frac{1}{x+1} - \frac{1}{x+2} \\&= \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x+2} = \frac{2}{x(x+2)}\end{aligned}$$

5.  $\frac{1}{1 \cdot 2} + \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 4} + \frac{1}{4 \cdot 5} + \cdots + \frac{1}{99 \cdot 100}$  을 간단히 하면?

- ①  $\frac{98}{99}$       ②  $\frac{100}{99}$       ③  $\frac{99}{100}$       ④  $\frac{101}{100}$       ⑤  $\frac{100}{101}$

해설

이항분리 이용

$$\frac{1}{1 \cdot 2} + \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 4} + \cdots + \frac{1}{99 \cdot 100}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1} - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} + \cdots + \frac{1}{99} - \frac{1}{100}$$

$$= 1 - \frac{1}{100} = \frac{99}{100}$$

6. 다음 식을 간단히 한 식은?

$$\frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{a}}}$$

- ①  $a + 1$       ②  $a + 2$       ③  $\textcircled{3} -a + 1$   
④  $-a + 2$       ⑤  $a - 1$

해설

아래에서부터 계산해 올라가자.

$$\frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{a}}} = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{a}{a-1}} = \frac{a-1}{a-1-a} = -a+1$$

7.  $\frac{2^1 + 2^0 + 2^{-1}}{2^{-2} + 2^{-3} + 2^{-4}}$  를 풀면?

- ① 6      ② 8      ③  $\frac{31}{2}$       ④ 24      ⑤ 512

해설

분자, 분모에  $2^3$ 을 곱하면  
$$\frac{2^3(2^1 + 2^0 + 2^{-1})}{2^3(2^{-2} + 2^{-3} + 2^{-4})} = \frac{2^3(2^1 + 2^0 + 2^{-1})}{2^1 + 2^0 + 2^{-1}}$$
$$= 2^3 = 8$$

해설

$$\frac{2 + 1 + \frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{2^3} + \frac{1}{2^4}} = \frac{\frac{7}{2}}{\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{16}} = \frac{\frac{7}{2}}{\frac{7}{16}} = 8$$

8.  $\frac{x^3 - x}{x^2 - x} + \frac{x^4 - 1}{x^2 - 1} - \frac{x^2 - 2x - 3}{x + 1} \times \frac{x + 2}{x^2 - x - 6}$  을 계산하면?

①  $x^2 + x + 1$       ②  $\frac{x^2 + 1}{2x - 1}$       ③  $\frac{2x}{x^2 - 1}$   
④  $x^2 - 1$       ⑤  $\frac{x - 1}{x^2 - x}$

해설

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

$$-\frac{(x+1)(x-3)}{x+1} \times \frac{x+2}{(x-3)(x+2)}$$

$$= x+1+x^2+1-1=x^2+x+1$$

9.  $\left(1 - \frac{1}{2^2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{3^2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{9^2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{10^2}\right)$  을 간단히 하면?

- ①  $\frac{5}{12}$       ②  $\frac{1}{2}$       ③  $\frac{11}{20}$       ④  $\frac{2}{3}$       ⑤  $\frac{7}{10}$

해설

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{3^2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{9^2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{10^2}\right) \\ &= \frac{1 \cdot 3}{2^2} \cdot \frac{2 \cdot 4}{3^2} \cdots \frac{8 \cdot 10}{9^2} \cdot \frac{9 \cdot 11}{10^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{1 \cdot 11}{2 \cdot 10} = \frac{11}{20}$$

일반적으로

$$\left(1 - \frac{1}{2^2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{3^2}\right) \cdots \left(1 - \frac{1}{n^2}\right) = \frac{n+1}{2n}$$

10.  $\frac{1}{a(a+1)} + \frac{2}{(a+1)(a+3)} + \frac{3}{(a+3)(a+6)}$  을 간단히 한 것은 ?

①  $\frac{1}{a} + \frac{6}{a+6}$       ②  $\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{a+6}$       ③  $\frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{a+6}$   
④  $\frac{1}{a} - \frac{6}{a+6}$       ⑤  $\frac{2}{a} - \frac{1}{a+6}$

해설

(준식)  
 $= \frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{a+1} + \frac{1}{a+1} - \frac{1}{a+3} + \frac{1}{a+3} - \frac{1}{a+6}$   
 $= \frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{a+6}$

11. 분수식  $\frac{x^2}{(x-y)(x-z)} + \frac{y^2}{(y-x)(y-z)} + \frac{z^2}{(z-x)(z-y)}$  를 간단히 하여라.

▶ 답:

▷ 정답: 1

해설

$$\frac{x^2(z-y) + y^2(z-x) + z^2(y-x)}{(x-y)(y-z)(z-x)} \dots ①$$

①에서 분자를  $x$ 에 관하여 정리하면

$$\begin{aligned} & x^2(z-y) + y^2(z-x) + z^2(y-x) \\ &= (z-y)x^2 - (z^2 - y^2)x + yz^2 - y^2z \\ &= (z-y)x^2 - (z+y)(z-y)x + zy(z-y) \\ &= (z-y)\{x^2 - (z+y)x + zy\} \\ &= (z-y)(x-z)(x-y) = (x-y)(y-z)(z-x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore (\text{준식}) = \frac{(x-y)(y-z)(z-x)}{(x-y)(y-z)(z-x)} = 1$$

12. 다음 식을 간단히 하면?

$$\frac{1}{1-x} + \frac{1}{1+x} + \frac{2}{1+x^2} - \frac{4}{1+x^4}$$

①  $\frac{8x^4}{1-x^4}$

②  $\frac{8}{1-x^4}$

③  $\frac{8x^4}{1-x^8}$

④  $\frac{8}{1-x^8}$

⑤  $\frac{8}{1+x^8}$

해설

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{1-x} + \frac{1}{1+x} + \frac{2}{1+x^2} - \frac{4}{1+x^4} \\ &= \frac{2}{1-x^2} + \frac{2}{1+x^2} - \frac{4}{1+x^4} \\ &= \frac{4}{1-x^4} - \frac{4}{1+x^4} = \frac{8x^4}{1-x^8} \end{aligned}$$

13.  $x = \frac{a}{b}$ ,  $a \neq b$ ,  $b \neq 0$  일 때,  $\frac{a+b}{a-b} = ?$

- ①  $\frac{x}{x+1}$     ②  $\frac{x+1}{x-1}$     ③ 1    ④  $x - \frac{1}{x}$     ⑤  $x + \frac{1}{x}$

해설

$$a = bx \circ | \text{므로} \quad \frac{a+b}{a-b} = \frac{bx+b}{bx-b} = \frac{x+1}{x-1}$$

$$\therefore \frac{a+b}{a-b} = \frac{\frac{a}{b} + 1}{\frac{a}{b} - 1} = \frac{x+1}{x-1}$$

14.  $\frac{x+3}{(x+1)(x+2)} = \frac{a}{x+1} + \frac{b}{x+2}$  을 만족할 때,  $a^2 + b^2$  의 값을 구하  
여라.

▶ 답:

▷ 정답: 5

해설

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{x+3}{(x+1)(x+2)} &= \frac{a}{x+1} + \frac{b}{x+2} \\ &= \frac{(a+b)x + 2a + b}{(x+1)(x+2)}\end{aligned}$$

$$a+b=1, 2a+b=3$$

$$\therefore a=2, b=-1$$

$$\therefore a^2+b^2=2^2+(-1)^2=5$$

15. 등식  $\frac{x^2 + 1}{x^3 - 6x^2 + 11x - 6} = \frac{a}{x-1} + \frac{b}{x-2} + \frac{c}{x-3}$  Ⓛ)  $x$ 에 대한 항등식

이 되도록 상수  $a, b, c$ 에 대하여  $abc$ 의 값을 구하여라.

▶ 답:

▷ 정답: -25

해설

$$x^3 - 6x^2 + 11x - 6 = (x-1)(x-2)(x-3)$$

양변에  $(x-1)(x-2)(x-3)$ 을 곱하면

$$x^2 + 1 = a(x-2)(x-3) + b(x-1)(x-3) + c(x-1)(x-2)$$

양변에  $x=1$ 을 대입하면  $2 = 2a$

$$\therefore a = 1$$

양변에  $x=2$ 를 대입하면  $5 = -b$

$$\therefore b = -5$$

양변에  $x=3$ 을 대입하면  $10 = 2c$

$$\therefore c = 5$$

$$\therefore abc = -25$$

16. 등식  $\frac{a}{x} - \frac{b}{x+1} = \frac{1}{x(x+1)}$  이  $x$ 에 대한 항등식일 때, 상수  $a, b$ 의 합을 구하면?

- ① 0      ② 1      ③ 2      ④ 3      ⑤ 4

해설

양변에  $x(x+1)$ 을 곱하면  
 $a(x+1) - bx = 1, ax + a - bx - 1 = 0$   
 $x(a-b) + (a-1) = 0$   
이 등식이  $x$ 에 대한 항등식이므로  
 $a = b, a = 1, b = 1$

$$\therefore a + b = 2$$

17. 분수식  $\frac{x}{x+1} + \frac{2x-1}{x-1} - \frac{3x^2+4x+2}{x^2+x}$  를 간단히 하면?

- Ⓐ  $-\frac{x-2}{x(x-1)}$  Ⓑ  $\frac{x+2}{x(x+1)}$  Ⓒ  $\frac{x-2}{x(x+1)}$   
Ⓓ  $\frac{x+2}{x(x-1)}$  Ⓛ  $\frac{x-2}{x(x-1)}$

해설

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{x}{x+1} &= 1 - \frac{1}{x+1}, \\ \frac{2x-1}{x-1} &= 2 + \frac{1}{x-1}, \\ \frac{3x^2+4x+2}{x^2+x} &= 3 + \frac{x+2}{x^2+x} \text{ |므로} \\ (\text{준식}) &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{x+1}\right) + \left(2 + \frac{1}{x-1}\right) \\ &\quad - \left(3 + \frac{x+2}{x^2+x}\right) \\ &= -\frac{1}{x+1} + \frac{1}{x-1} - \frac{x+2}{x(x+1)} \\ &= \frac{-x(x-1) + x(x+1) - (x-1)(x+2)}{x(x+1)(x-1)} \\ &= \frac{-x^2 + x + x^2 + x - x^2 - x + 2}{x(x+1)(x-1)} \\ &= \frac{-x^2 + x + 2}{x(x-1)(x+1)} \\ &= \frac{-(x^2 - x - 2)}{x(x-1)(x+1)} \\ &= \frac{-(x-2)(x+1)}{x(x-1)(x+1)} \\ &= -\frac{x-2}{x(x-1)}\end{aligned}$$

18.  $\frac{x+2}{x+1} - \frac{x+3}{x+2} - \frac{x+4}{x+3} + \frac{x+5}{x+4}$  를 간단히 하면?

Ⓐ  $\frac{2(2x+5)}{(x+1)(x+2)(x+3)(x+4)}$

Ⓑ  $\frac{2}{(x+1)(x+2)(x+3)(x+4)}$

Ⓒ  $\frac{2x}{(x+1)(x+2)(x+3)(x+4)}$

Ⓓ  $\frac{2(x-1)}{(x+1)(x+2)(x+3)(x+4)}$

Ⓔ  $\frac{2(x-2)}{(x+1)(x+2)(x+3)(x+4)}$

해설

$$\begin{aligned}(준식) &= \left(1 + \frac{1}{x+1}\right) - \left(1 + \frac{1}{x+2}\right) \\&\quad - \left(1 + \frac{1}{x+3}\right) + \left(1 + \frac{1}{x+4}\right) \\&= \frac{1}{x+1} - \frac{1}{x+2} - \frac{1}{x+3} + \frac{1}{x+4}\end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{2x+5}{(x+1)(x+4)} - \frac{2x+5}{(x+2)(x+3)}$$

$$= \frac{(2x+5)(x^2+5x+6-x^2-5x-4)}{(x+1)(x+2)(x+3)(x+4)}$$

$$= \frac{2(2x+5)}{(x+1)(x+2)(x+3)(x+4)}$$

19. 부분분수를 이용하여 다음을 만족시키는 양수  $x$ 를 구하여라.

$$\frac{1}{x(x+2)} + \frac{1}{(x+2)(x+4)} + \frac{1}{(x+4)(x+6)} + \frac{1}{(x+6)(x+8)} = \frac{4}{9}$$

▶ 답:

▷ 정답: 1

해설

주어진 식을 부분분수로 나타내면

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x+2} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{x+2} - \frac{1}{x+4} \right) \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{x+4} - \frac{1}{x+6} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{x+6} - \frac{1}{x+8} \right) \\ & = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \left( \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x+2} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{x+2} - \frac{1}{x+4} \right) \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \left( \frac{1}{x+4} - \frac{1}{x+6} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{x+6} - \frac{1}{x+8} \right) \right\} \\ & = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x+8} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{8}{x(x+8)} = \frac{4}{x(x+8)} \\ & = \frac{4}{9} \\ & \therefore x(x+8) = 9 \\ & x^2 + 8x - 9 = (x-1)(x+9) = 0 \\ & x > 0 \text{ } \circ \text{므로 } x = 1 \end{aligned}$$

20.  $\frac{1}{x(x+1)} + \frac{x}{(x+1)(2x+1)} + \frac{x}{(2x+1)(3x+1)} - \frac{2x+1}{x(3x+1)}$  을 간단히 하면 ?

- ① -2      ② -1      ③ 0      ④ 1      ⑤  $\frac{2}{3}$

해설

주어진 식을 이항분리시키면,

$$\begin{aligned}(\text{준식}) &= \left(\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x+1}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{x+1} - \frac{1}{2x+1}\right) \\&\quad + \left(\frac{1}{2x+1} - \frac{1}{3x+1}\right) - \left(\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{3x+1}\right) \\&= 0\end{aligned}$$

21. 분수식

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{x(x+1)} + \frac{2}{(x+1)(x+3)} + \frac{3}{(x+3)(x+6)} \\ & + \frac{4}{(x+6)(x+10)} + \frac{5}{(x+10)(x+15)} \\ & + \frac{6}{(x+15)(x+21)} + \frac{7}{(x+21)(x+28)} \end{aligned}$$

을 간단히 하면?

①  $\frac{28}{x^2+28x}$       ②  $\frac{7}{x^2+28x}$       ③  $\frac{7}{x^2+21x}$   
④  $\frac{6}{x^2+21x}$       ⑤  $\frac{1}{x^2+21x}$

해설

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{준식}) &= \left( \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x+1} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{x+1} - \frac{1}{x+3} \right) + \cdots \\ &+ \left( \frac{1}{x+21} - \frac{1}{x+28} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x+28} = \frac{28}{x^2+28x} \end{aligned}$$

22.  $\frac{1}{2 \cdot 4} + \frac{1}{4 \cdot 6} + \frac{1}{6 \cdot 8} + \cdots + \frac{1}{18 \cdot 20}$  을 계산한 값은?

- ① 0      ②  $\frac{9}{20}$       ③ 40      ④  $\frac{40}{9}$       ⑤  $\frac{9}{40}$

해설

$$\begin{aligned}& \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \right) + \left( \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{6} \right) + \cdots + \left( \frac{1}{18} - \frac{1}{20} \right) \right\} \\&= \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} + \left( -\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} \right) + \left( -\frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} \right) + \cdots - \frac{1}{20} \right\} \\&= \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{20} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{9}{20} = \frac{9}{40}\end{aligned}$$

23. 다음의 식을 간단히 하면?

$$\frac{1}{1+\sqrt{3}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}+\sqrt{5}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}+\sqrt{7}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{119}+\sqrt{121}}$$

- ① 5      ② 10      ③ 0      ④ -10      ⑤ -5

해설

$$\begin{aligned} \text{준식을 유리화하면} \\ \frac{\sqrt{3}-1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{5}-\sqrt{3}}{2} + \cdots + \frac{\sqrt{121}-\sqrt{119}}{2} \\ = -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{121}}{2} = \frac{11-1}{2} = 5 \end{aligned}$$

24. 다음 중  $\frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{20} + \frac{1}{30} + \frac{1}{42}$  을 간단히 한 것은?

- ①  $\frac{2}{13}$       ②  $\frac{4}{13}$       ③  $\frac{5}{14}$       ④  $\frac{23}{30}$       ⑤  $\frac{31}{42}$

해설

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{20} + \frac{1}{30} + \frac{1}{42} \\ &= \frac{1}{2 \times 3} + \frac{1}{3 \times 4} + \frac{1}{4 \times 5} + \frac{1}{5 \times 6} + \frac{1}{6 \times 7} \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{5}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{6}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{7}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{7} = \frac{5}{14} \end{aligned}$$

25. 분수식  $2 - \frac{1}{2 - \frac{1}{2 - \dots}}$  의 값을 구하면?

- ①  $\frac{1}{2}$       ② 1      ③  $\frac{3}{2}$       ④  $\frac{3}{4}$       ⑤  $\frac{4}{5}$

해설

(준식)= $a$ 라 하면  
 $2 - \frac{1}{a} = a \rightarrow a^2 - 2a + 1 = 0 \rightarrow (a - 1)^2 = 0$   
 $\therefore a = 1$

26.  $1 - \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{x}}} = 5$  을 만족하는  $x$ 의 값을 구하여라.

▶ 답:

▷ 정답: 5

해설

$$\begin{aligned}1 - \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{x}}} &= 1 - \frac{x-1}{x-1-x} \\&= 1 + x - 1 = x\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore x = 5$$

27. 분수식  $\frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{a+1}}}$  을 간단히 하면?

- ①  $-a$       ②  $a$       ③  $a - 1$

④  $1 - a$       ⑤  $2a - 1$

해설

밑에서부터 계산해 올라간다.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{a+1}}} &= \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{a+1}}} = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{a+1}{a}} \\ &= \frac{1}{\frac{-1}{a}} = -a \end{aligned}$$