

# Kaplan Keys™: California

GRADES: 3-8 SUBJECTS: English-Language Arts, Mathematics PROGRAM LENGTH: Up to 10 hours per subject

ELIGIBLE FUNDING: Title I, SIG, RTTT, i3, RTI, Promise Neighborhoods, 21st CCLC, GEAR UP, TRIO, EIA-LEP

## Build critical-thinking skills that students need to test their best.

**Kaplan Keys: California** builds rich critical-thinking skills that students need to succeed on a range of standardized assessments for grades 3-8.

- ▶ Short, 20-minute lessons with strategy-based instruction allow your students to apply what they know in the format of a standardized test.
- ▶ Lessons include character guides that model effective test-taking strategies for rigorous item types so students can apply that knowledge during independent practice.
- ▶ Robust lesson planning notes enable teachers to easily support student learning through alignments to California Content Standards, and comprehensive assessment explanations.
- ▶ Two full-length tests and formative assessments allow your teachers to diagnose student needs, deliver instruction, and assess progress.



Kaplan Keys: California (Grades 3-8)  
Mathematics / English-Language Arts

**INSTRUCTION**

Help Simon simplify rational expressions to analyze the information in the problem below.

1 Simplify  $\frac{3x^2 - 12x - 12}{x^2 - 4}$  to lowest terms.

A  $\frac{3}{x-2}$   
 B  $\frac{-3(x+2)}{(x-2)}$   
 C  $\frac{3(x-2)}{(x+2)}$   
 D  $\frac{3}{(x-2)}$

First, factor the numerator and denominator completely; be sure to look for the GCF, binomial factors, difference of two squares, a perfect square.

I factored the GCF out of the numerator, and then I factored the denominator into two binomials. The expression can be factored further. Factor the trinomial in the numerator below.

$$\frac{3x^2 - 12x - 12}{x^2 - 4} = \frac{3(x^2 + 4x + 4)}{(x+2)(x-2)}$$

Read the question to yourself.

1 People break bits of coral off the reefs to

A sell for money.  
 B remind them of their trips.  
 C conduct scientific studies.  
 D eat later.

Think about what the question is really asking.

Say the question again using your own words. Then write the question below.

This question is really asking why people break off pieces of coral.

Inside Kaplan Keys:  
California

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