

# Prime Factorization and Exponents Lesson #5: Integral Exponents

## The Negative Exponent

a) Complete the patterns below.

$$10^3 = 1000$$

$$3^3 = 27$$

$$10^2 = 100$$

$$3^2 = 9$$

$$10^1 = 10$$

$$3^1 = 3$$

$$10^0 = 1$$

$$3^0 = 1$$

$$a^0 = 1$$

$$10^{-1} = \frac{1}{10} = \frac{1}{10^1} \quad 0.1$$

$$3^{-1} = \frac{1}{3}$$

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

$$10^{-2} = \frac{1}{100} = \frac{1}{10^2} = 0.01$$

$$3^{-2} = \frac{1}{9} = \frac{1}{3^2}$$

$$a^{-2} = \frac{1}{a^2}$$

$$10^{-3} = \frac{1}{1000} = \frac{1}{10^3} = 0.001$$

$$3^{-3} = \frac{1}{27} = \frac{1}{3^3}$$

$$a^{-3} = \frac{1}{a^3}$$

b) Write the following with positive exponents.

$$\text{i)} \ 10^{-7} = \frac{1}{10^7}$$

$$\text{ii)} \ 3^{-5} = \frac{1}{3^5}$$

$$\text{iii)} \ a^{-n} = \frac{1}{a^n}$$

## Using the Exponent Laws to Define the Negative Exponent

Consider the expression  $5^4 \div 5^7$ .

a) Evaluate the expression as an exact value using a calculator.

$$= 0.008$$

b) Complete the following to evaluate the expression.

$$5^4 \div 5^7 = \frac{\cancel{5} \cdot \cancel{5} \cdot \cancel{5} \cdot \cancel{5}}{\cancel{5} \cancel{5} \cancel{5} \cdot \cancel{5} \cdot \cancel{5} \cdot \cancel{5}} = \frac{1}{5^3} = \frac{1}{125} = 0.008$$

c) Use the quotient law to complete the following.

$$5^4 \div 5^7 = 5^{\underline{4}-\underline{7}} = 5^{\underline{-3}}$$

d) The results in a) to c) are examples of a general rule when a base is raised to

$$\text{a negative exponent. Complete: } a^{-p} = \frac{1}{a^p}$$

e) Write the following with positive exponents and evaluate.

$$\text{i)} \ 2^{-1} = \frac{1}{2^1} = \frac{1}{\underline{2}}$$

$$\text{ii)} \ 3^{-2} = \frac{1}{3^2} = \frac{1}{\underline{9}}$$

$$\text{iii)} \ 4^{-3} = \frac{1}{4^3} = \frac{1}{\underline{64}}$$

**The Negative Exponent in the Denominator**

Use the rule for division of fractions to show that  $\frac{1}{4^{-3}} = 4^3$ . Use a calculator to confirm.

\*negative exponent changes to positive  
when you move it to the top or  
bottom (opposite of where it was)

**Negative Exponent Law**

A base (not including zero) raised to a negative exponent has the following properties:

$$a^{-n} = \frac{1}{a^n}, \quad a \neq 0 \quad \text{and}$$

$$\frac{1}{a^{-n}} = a^n, \quad a \neq 0$$

$$\frac{1}{2^3} = \left(\frac{1}{8}\right)$$



**Class Ex. #1** Simplify, express with positive exponents, and evaluate without using a calculator.

a)  $4^5 \times 4^{-3}$

$$= 4^{5+(-3)} \\ = 4^2 = 16$$

b)  $3^2 \times 3^{-5}$

$$= 3^{2+(-5)} \\ = 3^{-3} = \left(\frac{1}{3^3}\right) = \frac{1}{27}$$

c)  $\frac{1}{2^{-5}}$

$$= 2^5$$

d)  $\frac{6^{-7}}{6^{-5}}$

$$= \frac{6^{-7}}{6^{-5}} = 6^{-7-(-5)} = 6^{-2} = \frac{1}{6^2}$$

e)  $(2^3)^{-1}$

$$= \frac{6^5}{6^7} = 6^{-2} = \frac{1}{6^2} = \left(\frac{1}{36}\right)$$



**Class Ex. #2** Identify the following as true or false.

a)  $\frac{8^3}{8^{-1}} = 8^4$

True

$$8^{3-(-1)} = 8^4$$

b)  $\frac{8^3}{4^{-1}} = 2^4$  False

$$\frac{(2^3)^3}{(2^2)^{-1}} = \frac{2^9}{2^{-2}}$$

c)  $a^{-3} = \frac{1}{a^3}$

TRUE



**Class Ex. #3** Explain why  $2p^{-3} \neq \frac{1}{2p^3}$ :

coefficient

$$2p^{-3} = \frac{2}{p^3}$$

only the  
base moves



Class Ex. #4

a)  $a^{-4} \times a^{-3}$   
 $= a^{-4+ -3}$   
 $= a^{-7} = \frac{1}{a^7}$

b)  $6x^2 \div 2x^7$

$3x^{2-7} = 3x^{-5}$   
 $= \frac{3}{x^5}$

c)  $\frac{y^6}{2y^{-5}}$

$\frac{1}{2} y^{6-(-5)} = \frac{y^{11}}{2}$

d)  $(-2x)^{-3}$   
 $= \frac{1}{(-2x)^3} = \frac{1}{-8x^3}$

e)  $\frac{8a^{-5}}{4b^{-3}}$

$= \frac{2b^3}{a^5}$

\*Simplify  
#5  
\*Get rid  
of neg  
exponents

f)  $\frac{(5p)^{-2}}{5q^4} = \frac{1}{5q^4(5p)^2}$   
 $= \frac{1}{5q^4 \cdot 25p^2}$   
 $= \frac{1}{125q^4p^2}$

### Simplifying a Fractional Base with a Negative Exponent

Consider the expression  $\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{-4}$ .

QUESTION

a) Complete the following  $\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{-4} = \frac{1}{\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{\square}} = \frac{1}{\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^4} = 1 \times \quad =$

b) Evaluate  $\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^4$ .

c) Classify the following statement as true or false.  $\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{-4} = \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^4$

d) Suggest a quick method for evaluating  $\left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^{-3}$  without using a calculator.

In general,  $\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^{-n} = \left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^n \quad a, b \neq 0$ .

$$\frac{a^{-n}}{b^{-n}} = \frac{b^n}{a^n}$$

Complete Assignment Questions #1 - #15

Quiz @ 8:20 tomorrow.

# Assignment

1. Write the following with positive exponents.

a)  $x^{-3}$     b)  $y^{-9}$     c)  $4^{-1}$     d)  $\frac{1}{a^{-5}}$     e)  $\frac{1}{6^{-2}}$

2. Without using a calculator show that  $\frac{3}{5^{-2}} = 75$ .

3. Simplify, express with positive exponents, and evaluate without using a calculator.

a)  $4^3 \times 4^{-4}$     b)  $3^0 \times 3^{-3}$     c)  $\frac{1}{7^{-2}}$     d)  $\frac{10^{-3}}{10}$     e)  $(3^2)^{-2}$

4. Express with positive exponents.

a)  $n^2m^{-5}$     b)  $c^{-2}x^{-5}$     c)  $16h^{-1}$     d)  $\frac{2}{3}b^{-8}$     e)  $(y^{-4})^{-2}$

f)  $\frac{t^{-5}}{4}$     g)  $\frac{1}{4x^{-9}}$     h)  $\frac{4}{x^{-9}}$     i)  $\frac{a^2}{b^{-7}}$     j)  $\frac{a^{-2}}{b^7}$

5. Evaluate the following without using a calculator.

a)  $-3^{-2}$     b)  $(-3)^{-2}$     c)  $-7^2 \cdot 8^{-2}$     d)  $(-8.3)^0$     e)  $[-(3.9)^0]^{-2}$

6. Use a calculator to find the exact value of the following.

a)  $-4^{-4}$     b)  $(-7)^{-3}$     c)  $(0.75)^{-3}$     d)  $(-0.025)^{-2}$     e)  $\left(\frac{4}{7}\right)^{-3}$