

# Lesson 5: Integral Exponents

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# Prime Factorization and Exponents Lesson #5: Integral Exponents

## The Negative Exponent

a) Complete the patterns below.

$$10^3 = 1000$$

$$10^2 = 100$$

$$10^1 = 10$$

$$10^0 = 1$$

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

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

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

$$3^3 = 27$$

$$3^2 = 9$$

$$3^1 = 3$$

$$3^0 = 1$$

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

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

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

$$a^0 = 1$$

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

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

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

$a^{-n} = \frac{1}{a^n}$   
base      exponent

b) Write the following with positive exponents.

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

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

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.

b) Complete the following to evaluate the expression.

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

c) Use the quotient law to complete the following.

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

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

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

e) Write the following with positive exponents and evaluate.

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

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

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

**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.

$\wedge y^x$   $\frac{1}{4^{-3}} = 64$

**Negative Exponent Law**

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

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

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)  $3^2 \times 3^{-5} = 3^{2+(-5)} = 3^{-3} = \frac{1}{3^3} = \frac{1}{27}$   
 c)  $\frac{1}{2^{-5}} = 2^5 = 32$   
 d)  $\frac{6^{-7}}{6^{-5}} = 6^{-7-(-5)} = 6^{-2} = \frac{1}{6^2} = \frac{1}{36}$   
 e)  $(2^3)^{-1} = \frac{1}{2^3} = \frac{1}{8}$

Class Ex. #2



Identify the following as true or false.

a)  $\frac{8^3}{8^{-1}} = 8^4$  TRUE  
 $= 8^{3-(-1)} = 8^{3+1} = 8^4$   
 b)  $\frac{8^3}{4^{-1}} = 2^4$  False  
 • need the same bases for exponent laws  
 c)  $a^{-3} = \frac{1}{a^3}$  True

Class Ex. #3



Explain why  $2p^{-3} \neq \frac{1}{2p^3}$ .

coefficient  $\uparrow$  base so only the p is effected by the exponent

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



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

b)  $6x^2 \div 2x^7 = \frac{6\cancel{x} \cdot \cancel{x}}{2 \cdot \cancel{x} \cdot \cancel{x} \cdot \cancel{x} \cdot \cancel{x} \cdot \cancel{x} \cdot \cancel{x}}$   
 $= 3x^{2-7}$   
 $= 3x^{-5} = \frac{3}{x^5}$

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

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

e)  $\frac{8a^{-5}}{4b^{-3}} = \frac{2b^3}{a^5}$

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

# 4-6, 9-11, 12bd, 13bdf

**Simplifying a Fractional Base with a Negative Exponent**

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

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

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

**Complete Assignment Questions #1 - #15**

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## 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)  $\left(\frac{4}{7}\right)^{-3}$

7. State whether the following are true or false.

a)  $6x^{-3} = \frac{6}{x^3}$

b)  $5a^{-4} = \frac{1}{5a^4}$

c)  $\frac{4}{b^{-6}} = 4b^6$

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

e)  $\frac{1}{5y^{-1}} = 5y$

f)  $\frac{1}{\frac{1}{4}p} = \frac{1}{4}p^{-1}$

g)  $(3x)^5 = \frac{1}{(3x)^{-5}}$

h)  $\frac{1}{\left(\frac{1}{7}a\right)^{-2}} = 49a^2$

8. Simplify and write the answer with positive exponents.

a)  $x^{10} \cdot x^{-5}$

b)  $m^5 \div m^8$

c)  $b^{-1} \cdot b^{-3}$

d)  $-w^0 \div w^5$

9. Simplify and write the answer with positive exponents.

a)  $a^8 \times a^{-10}$

b)  $10x^2 \div 2x^{-1}$

c)  $\frac{6y^{-6}}{2y^{-4}}$

d)  $\frac{2a^{-5}}{4b^6}$

e)  $-7x^{-2}$

f)  $-(7x)^{-2}$

g)  $(-7x)^{-2}$

h)  $\frac{(-7x)^{-2}}{-7x^{-2}}$

10. Simplify each expression, writing the answer with positive exponents.

a)  $a^{-3}a^{-3}$

b)  $(5b^8b^{-12})(-10b^3b^{-12})$

c)  $(-7x^3x^{-5})(x^2x^{-3})$

d)  $(-2a^3)^{-3} \cdot 3a^{12}$

e)  $\frac{16a^6b^{-3}}{-4a^6b^3}$

f)  $(-3a^5b^{-3}c^0)^{-2}$

11. Simplify. Write the final answer with positive exponents.

a)  $\frac{32a^2b^{-4}}{4a^{-8}b^{-2}} \times \frac{-8a^{-2}}{-3b^{-3}}$

b)  $\frac{10(p^3q^2r^0)^{-3}}{(8p^{-3}q^5r^3)^{-2}}$

c)  $(-2x^5y^3z^8)^{-2}(-2x^2y^{-8}z^{12})^3$

d)  $(5a^3b^2)(-2a^{-2}b)^{-3} \div (-5a^8b^{-9})^{-2}$

12. Evaluate the following without using a calculator.

a)  $\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{-3}$

b)  $\left(\frac{1}{5}\right)^{-2}$

c)  $\left(\frac{8}{5}\right)^{-1}$

d)  $\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{-4}$

13. Simplify. Write the final answers with positive exponents.

a)  $\left(\frac{c}{d}\right)^{-3}$

b)  $\left(\frac{x}{4}\right)^{-3}$

c)  $\left(\frac{p^2}{r^4}\right)^{-3}$

d)  $\left(\frac{a^{-2}}{b^{-5}}\right)^{-3}$

e)  $\left(\frac{-12x^{-3}}{6y^{-8}}\right)^{-1}$

f)  $\left(\frac{12x^3y^{-1}}{-8x^{-1}y^5}\right)^{-2}$

Multiple  
Choice

14. The value of  $\frac{1^{-3} + 3^0}{2^{-1}}$  is

- A. 1  
B. 4  
C. 8  
D. 12

15. Which of the following statements are true?

i)  $3a^{-3} = \frac{1}{3a^3}$       ii)  $8x^4 \div 4x^7 = \frac{1}{2x^3}$       iii)  $\frac{1}{2a} = 2a^{-1}$

- A. i) only  
B. ii) only  
C. iii) only  
D. none of the statements are true

**Answer Key**

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

2.  $\frac{3}{5^{-2}} = 3 \times 5^2 = 3 \times 25 = 75$

3. a)  $\frac{1}{4^1} = \frac{1}{4}$       b)  $\frac{1}{3^3} = \frac{1}{27}$       c)  $7^2 = 49$       d)  $\frac{1}{10^4} = \frac{1}{10\,000}$       e)  $\frac{1}{3^4} = \frac{1}{81}$

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

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

5. a)  $-\frac{1}{9}$       b)  $\frac{1}{9}$       c)  $-\frac{49}{64}$       d) 1      e) 1

6. a)  $-\frac{1}{256}$       b)  $-\frac{1}{343}$       c)  $\frac{64}{27}$       d) 1600      e)  $\frac{343}{64}$

7. a) T      b) F      c) T      d) F      e) F      f) F      g) T      h) F

8. a)  $x^5$       b)  $\frac{1}{m^3}$       c)  $\frac{1}{b^4}$       d)  $-\frac{1}{w^5}$

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- 9 . a)**  $\frac{1}{a^2}$       **b)**  $5x^3$       **c)**  $\frac{3}{y^2}$       **d)**  $\frac{1}{2a^5b^6}$   
**e)**  $-\frac{7}{x^2}$       **f)**  $-\frac{1}{49x^2}$       **g)**  $\frac{1}{49x^2}$       **h)**  $-\frac{1}{343}$
- 10 . a)**  $\frac{1}{a^6}$       **b)**  $-\frac{50}{b^{13}}$       **c)**  $-\frac{7}{x^3}$       **d)**  $-\frac{3}{8}a^{3^3}$       **e)**  $-\frac{4}{b^6}$       **f)**  $\frac{b^6}{9a^{10}}$
- 11 . a)**  $\frac{64}{3}a^8b$       **b)**  $\frac{640q^4r^6}{p^{15}}$       **c)**  $-\frac{2z^{20}}{x^4y^{30}}$       **d)**  $-\frac{125a^{25}}{8b^{19}}$
- 12 . a)**  $\frac{27}{8}$       **b)** 25      **c)**  $\frac{5}{8}$       **d)**  $\frac{16}{81}$
- 13 . a)**  $\frac{d^3}{c^3}$       **b)**  $\frac{64}{x^3}$       **c)**  $\frac{r^{12}}{p^6}$       **d)**  $\frac{a^6}{b^{15}}$       **e)**  $-\frac{x^3}{2y^8}$       **f)**  $\frac{4y^{12}}{9x^8}$
- 14 . B**      **15 . D**