

Learning to Work with Exponents ... Set 1

A. Positive integer exponents:

Meaning of exponents:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{example: } 3^4 &= 3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 3 \\ &= 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 = 81 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{example: } 4^3 = 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 = 64$$

Problems 1-12: Find the value:

$$1. 3^2 = \quad \quad \quad | \quad 7. (-2)^3 =$$

$$2. 2^3 = \quad \quad \quad | \quad 8. 100^2 =$$

$$3. (-3)^2 = \quad \quad \quad | \quad 9. (2.1)^2 =$$

$$4. -(3)^2 = \quad \quad \quad | \quad 10. (-.1)^3 =$$

$$5. -3^2 = -(3^2) = \quad \quad \quad | \quad 11. \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3 =$$

$$6. -2^3 = \quad \quad \quad | \quad 12. \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)^3 =$$

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Answers

1. 9
2. 8
3. 9
4. -9
5. -9
6. -8
7. -8
8. 10,000
9. 4.41
10. -.001
11. $\frac{8}{27}$
12. $-\frac{8}{27}$

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a^b means use a as a factor b times. (b is the exponent or power of a)

example: 2^5 means $2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2$

2^5 has a value 32

5 is the exponent or power

2 is the factor

example: $5 \cdot 5$ can be written 5^2 . Its value is 25.

example: $4^1 = 4$

Problems 13-24: Write the meaning and find the value:

13. $6^3 =$

14. $(-4)^2 =$

15. $0^4 =$

16. $7^1 =$

17. $1^4 =$

18. $(-1)^3 =$

19. $(0.1)^4 =$

20. $(\frac{2}{3})^4 =$

21. $(1\frac{1}{2})^2 =$

22. $2^{10} =$

23. $(.03)^2 =$

24. $3^2 \cdot 2^3 =$

Answers

- 13. $6 \cdot 6 \cdot 6 = 216$
- 14. $(-4)(-4) = 16$
- 15. $0 \cdot 0 \cdot 0 \cdot 0 = 0$
- 16. $7 = 7$
- 17. $1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 = 1$
- 18. $(-1)(-1)(-1) = -1$
- 19. $(.1)(.1)(.1)(.1)$
 $= .0001$
- 20. $\frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{3} = \frac{16}{81}$
- 21. $\frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{2} = \frac{9}{4} = 2\frac{1}{4}$
- 22. $2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2$
 $\cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2$
 $= 1024$
- 23. $(.03)(.03) = .0009$
- 24. $3 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 = 72$

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$$\text{example: } \frac{8}{2^4} = \frac{8}{16} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{example: } \frac{6^3}{6^2} = \frac{216}{36} = 6$$

Problems 25-30: Simplify:

$$25. \frac{6}{3^2} =$$

$$26. \frac{2^5}{8} =$$

$$27. \frac{4 \cdot 5}{10} =$$

$$28. \frac{10}{4^2 \cdot 5} =$$

$$29. \frac{2^3 \cdot 2^4}{2^5 \cdot 2} =$$

$$30. \frac{5 \cdot 12}{6^2 \cdot 10} =$$

Problems 31-38: Find the value:

$$31. 3^2 + 4^2 =$$

$$32. 5^2 =$$

$$33. 3^2 + 4^2 + 12^2 =$$

$$34. 13^2 =$$

$$35. (3.1)^2 - (.03)^2 =$$

$$36. (3.1)^2 + (.03)^2 =$$

$$37. 3^3 + 4^3 + 5^3 =$$

$$38. 6^3 =$$

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Answers

25. $\frac{2}{3}$

26. 4

27. 2

28. $\frac{1}{8}$

29. 2

30. $\frac{1}{6}$

31. 25

32. 25

33. 169

34. 169

35. 9.6091

36. 9.6109

37. 216

38. 216

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B. Integer exponent laws:

Problems 39-40: Write the meaning (not the value)

39. $3^2 =$ | 40. $3^4 =$

41. Write as a power of 3: $3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 =$

42. Write the meaning: $3^2 \cdot 3^4 =$

43. Write your answer to 42 as a power of 3, then find the value.

44. Now find each value and solve: $3^2 \cdot 3^4 =$

45. So $3^2 \cdot 3^4 = 3^6$. Circle each of the powers. Note how the circled numbers are related.

46. How are they related?

Problems 47-52: Write each expression as a power of the same factor:

<i>example:</i> $3^2 \cdot 3^4 = 3^6$

47. $4^1 \cdot 4^2 =$ | 50. $(-1)^5 \cdot (-1)^4 =$

48. $5^3 \cdot 5^3 =$ | 51. $10 \cdot 10^4 =$

49. $3^3 \cdot 3 =$ | 52. $10 \cdot 10 =$

53. Make a formula by filling in the brackets:

$a^b \cdot a^c = a^{[\quad]}$. This is an exponent rule.

Answers

39. $3 \cdot 3$

40. $3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3$

41. 3^6

42. $3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3$

43. $3^6 = 729$

44. $9 \cdot 81 = 729$

45. $3^{(2)} \cdot 3^{(4)} = 3^{(6)}$

46. $2 + 4 = 6$

47. 4^3

48. 5^6

49. 3^4

50. $(-1)^9$

51. 10^5

52. 10^2

53. $a^b \cdot a^c = a^{[b+c]}$

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54. $3^6 =$ | 55. $3^4 =$ | 56. $729 \div 81 =$

$\begin{aligned} \text{note: } 3^6 \div 3^4 &= \frac{3^6}{3^4} = \frac{3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3}{3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3} \\ &= \frac{3}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{3} \cdot 3 \cdot 3 = 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 = 3^2 \end{aligned}$

57. Circle the exponents: $\frac{3^6}{3^4} = 3^2$

58. How are the circled numbers related?

Problems 59-63: Write each expression as a power

$\text{example: } \frac{3^6}{3^4} = 3^2$
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59. $2^4 \div 2^4 =$ | 60. $\frac{2^5}{2} =$

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Answers

54. 729

55. 81

56. 9

57. $\frac{3^{(6)}}{3^{(4)}} = 3^{(2)}$

58. $6 - 4 = 2$

59. 2^0

60. 2^4

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61. $\frac{5^2}{5} =$ | 63. $\frac{1^5}{1^3} =$

62. $\frac{(-4)^7}{(-4)^2} =$ |

64. Make a formula by filling in the brackets:

$\frac{a^b}{a^c} = a^{[\quad]}$. This is another exponent rule.

Problems 65-67: Find each value:

65. $4^3 =$ | 67. $(4^3)^2 = (64)^2 =$

66. $4^6 =$ |

Problems 68-69: Write the meaning of each expression:

Answers

61. 5^1

62. $(-4)^5$

63. 1^2 (or any power of
1)

64. $\frac{a^b}{a^c} = a^{[b-c]}$

65. 64

66. 4096

67. 4096

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example: $(4^3)^2 = 4^3 \cdot 4^3 = 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4$
 $= 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 = 4^6$

68. $(3^2)^4 =$ | 69. $(5^1)^3 =$

70. Circle the three exponents: $(4^3)^2 = 4^6$

71. What is the relation of the circled numbers?

72. Make a rule: $(a^b)^c = a^{[\quad]}$

73. Write your three exponent rules below:

I. $a^b \cdot a^c =$

II. $\frac{a^b}{a^c} =$

III. $(a^b)^c =$

Problems 74-80: Use the rules to write each expression as a power of the factor, and tell which rule you're using:

74. $3^4 \cdot 3^6 =$ | 78. $\frac{3^4}{3} =$

75. $\frac{2^{10}}{2^5} =$ | 79. $(5^1)^2 =$

76. $(2^5)^2 =$ | 80. $10^4 \cdot 10^3 =$

77. $(3^4)^4 =$ |

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Answers

$$68. 3^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 3^2$$

$$69. 5 \cdot 5 \cdot 5$$

$$70. \left(4^{(3)}\right)^{(2)} = 4^{(6)}$$

$$71. 3 \times 2 = 6$$

$$72. \left(a^b\right)^c = a^{[bc]}$$

$$73. \text{I. } a^b \cdot a^c = a^{b+c}$$

$$\text{II. } \frac{a^b}{a^c} = a^{b-c}$$

$$\text{III. } \left(a^b\right)^c = a^{bc}$$

$$74. 3^{10}, \text{ rule I}$$

$$75. 2^5, \text{ rule II}$$

$$76. 2^{10}, \text{ rule III}$$

$$77. 3^{16}, \text{ rule III}$$

$$78. 3^3, \text{ rule II}$$

$$79. 5^2, \text{ rule III}$$

$$80. 10^7, \text{ rule I}$$