

## 6.2 Working With Integer Exponents

**Investigate:** Using patterns to evaluate powers. No decimals.  
Complete the statements below and then describe the pattern.

$$\begin{aligned}
 2^5 &= 32 \\
 2^4 &= 16 \quad \downarrow \div 2 \\
 2^3 &= 8 \quad \downarrow \div 2 \\
 2^2 &= 4 \quad \downarrow \div 2 \\
 2^1 &= 2 \\
 2^0 &= 1 \\
 2^{-1} &= \frac{1}{2} \\
 2^{-2} &= \frac{1}{4} \quad \left( \frac{1}{2^2} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 3^3 &= 27 \\
 3^2 &= 9 \quad \downarrow \div 3 \\
 3^1 &= 3 \quad \downarrow \div 3 \\
 3^0 &= 1 \\
 3^{-1} &= \frac{1}{3} \\
 3^{-2} &= \frac{1}{9} \quad \left( \frac{1}{3^2} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

positive, zero and negative exponents all follow a pattern

note your BASE cannot be 0

### Zero Exponent

In General:

$$\Rightarrow a^0 = 1$$

### Negative Exponent:

In General:

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

In Words:

⇒ Invert the base and  
put to a positive exponent

Extend the rule:

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^{-n} &= \left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^n \\ &= \frac{b^n}{a^n} \end{aligned}$$

Practice time....

Evaluate (Leave answers in fractional form):

$$a) 2^0 = 1$$

$$b) (-2)^4 = 16$$

$$c) -2^4 = -16$$

$$d) (-3)^5 = -243$$

$$e) 2^{-4} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 = \frac{1}{16}$$

$$f) -2^{-4} = -\frac{1}{16}$$

$$g) -3^0 = -1$$

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

Simplify: (write as a single power with positive exponents)

$$a) \left( (4^3)^{-2} \right)^{-1}$$

$$= 4^{3(-2)(-1)}$$

$$= 4^6$$

$$b) \frac{\left( (3^{-1})^{-2} \right)^{-1}}{3(3)^2}$$

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

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

$$= 3^{-2-3}$$

$$= 3^{-5}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3^5}$$

$$c) \left( \frac{(4^3)^2}{4(4^6)} \right)^{-1}$$

$$= \left( \frac{4^6}{4^7} \right)^{-1}$$

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

$$= 4$$

$$= \frac{1}{3^3 \cdot 3^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3^5}$$

Simplify: answer should positive exponents; leave in fractional form

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } 5^{-4} (5^{-2})^{-1} \\ &= 5^{-4} \cdot 5^2 \\ &= 5^{-2} \\ &= \frac{1}{5^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b) } \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^{-3} \times \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^4 \div \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^{13} \\ &= \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^{-3+4-13} \\ &= \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^{-12} \\ &= \left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^{12} \\ &= \frac{5^{12}}{2^{12}} \end{aligned}$$

Evaluate:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } 3^{-2} - 2^{-3} & \quad \text{NOT LIKE BASES!!!} \\ & \quad \text{NORMAL SUBTRACTION} \\ &= \frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{8} \\ &= \frac{8}{72} - \frac{9}{72} \\ &= -\frac{1}{72} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b) } \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{-3} + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^{-1} - 5^0 \\ &= \left(\frac{2}{1}\right)^3 + \left(\frac{4}{1}\right)^1 - 1 \\ &= 2^3 + 4 - 1 \\ &= 8 + 4 - 1 \\ &= 11 \end{aligned}$$

Determine the value of the variable that make each of the following true:

a)  $10^x = 10000000$

$$10^x = 10^7$$

$$\therefore x = 7$$

Hint:

count the  
zeros



b)  $3^n = \frac{1}{3}$

$$3^n = (3)^{-1}$$

$$\therefore n = -1$$

c)  $10^y = 0.00000001$

$$10^y = \left(\frac{1}{10}\right)^8$$

$$10^y = 10^{-8}$$

$$\therefore y = -8$$

Hint:

small number you  
need a neg exponent



d)  $8^m = \frac{1}{64}$

$$8^m = \frac{1}{8^2}$$

$$8^m = 8^{-2}$$

$$\therefore m = -2$$

Simplify each expression, answer with positive exponents

$$a) \frac{y^4(x^2)^{-3}y^3}{x^{-5}(y^{-4})^2}$$

$$= \frac{y^{-4} x^{-6} y^{-3}}{x^{-5} y^{-8}}$$

$$= \frac{x^5 y^8}{y^4 x^6 y^3}$$

$$= \frac{x^5 y^8}{x^6 y^7}$$

$$= x^{5-6} y^{8-7}$$

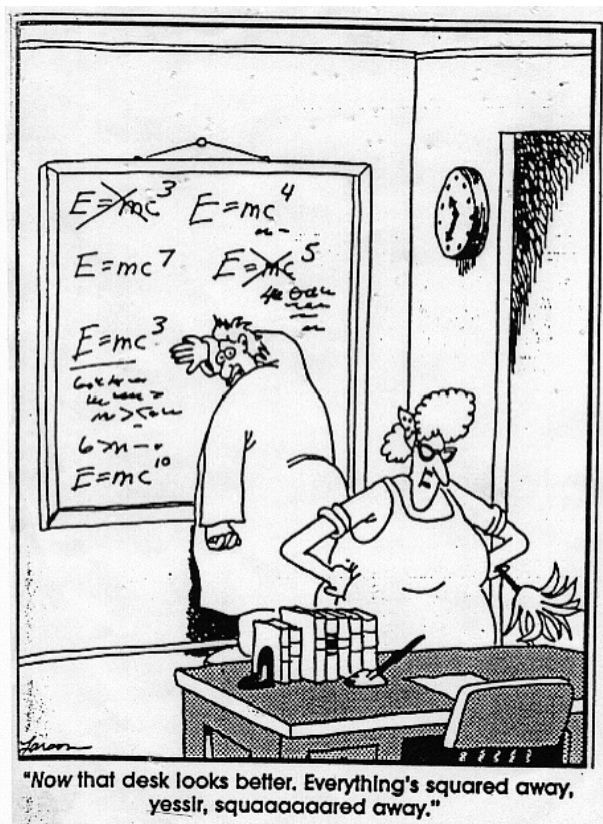
$$= x^{-1} y^1$$

$$= \frac{y}{x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{x} \cdot \frac{y}{1} \\ &= \frac{y}{x} \end{aligned}$$

$$b) \frac{x^{-3}(y^{-1})^{-2}}{(x^{-5})(y^4)}$$

Hmwk:  
p 408 # 4, 5 cdef,  
6, 7, 9, 11 adf, 12, 13



"Now that desk looks better. Everything's squared away, yessir, squaaaaared away."