

College Prep ~ Getting Ready for Chapter 5

By the end of the lesson, we will be able to:

- Simplify exponential equations using the product rule, the quotient rule, the power rule, and the Law of Exponents.
- Evaluate Exponential expressions with a Zero or Negative exponent.
- Convert between Scientific Notation and Decimal Notation.
- Use Scientific Notation to multiply and divide.

NOTATION: in the expression a^n
 a is called the *base*, and n is called
the *exponent or power*.

Let's look at the rules for
combining exponents.

Multiplying - **add exponents**. If there are numerical coefficients, you multiply them, then deal with the variables.

$$a^m \cdot a^n = a^{m+n}$$

$$A) 3^2 \cdot 3^3 =$$

$$B) 2z^2 \cdot 5z^4 =$$

Dividing - subtract exponents If there are numerical coefficients, you divide or reduce the fraction before you deal with the variables.

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

$$C) \frac{6^4}{6} =$$

$$D) \frac{25m^8}{15m^3} =$$

Zero Exponents - any number or variable that has a zero exponent is always equal to 1

$$\frac{a^m}{a^m} = a^0 = 1$$

E) $5^0 =$

F) $18x^0 =$

Negative exponents - moving the exponential factor to the denominator creates a positive exponent.

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

$$\text{H) } 5b^{-4} =$$

$$\text{I) } \frac{5}{3}z^{-3} \cdot \left(-\frac{9}{20}z^4\right) =$$

Power to a power - multiply exponents

$$(a^m)^n = a^{mn}$$

$$J) (3^2)^4 =$$

$$K) (7^2)^0 =$$

Power of a product - exponent applies to each factor (like distributing).

$$(ab)^n = a^n b^n$$

$$\text{L) } (2a)^4 =$$

$$\text{M) } (-4b^3)^{-2} =$$

Power of a quotient - exponent applies
to numerator and denominator.

$$\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^n = \frac{a^n}{b^n}$$

$$N) \left(\frac{z}{5}\right)^3 =$$

$$O) \left(\frac{5b^3}{c^2}\right)^2 =$$

Power of a negative quotient - exponent applies to numerator and denominator (like distributing) This will cause everything inside to switch places.

$$\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^{-n} = \frac{a^{-n}}{b^{-n}} = \frac{b^n}{a^n}$$

P) $\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{-3} =$

SCIENTIFIC NOTATION. A number is written in scientific notation when it is in the form

$$a \times 10^n \quad \text{where} \quad 1 \leq |a| \leq 10$$

and n is an integer.

To change a decimal to scientific notation:

Step 1: Count the number N of decimal places that the decimal point must be moved in order to get only one digit (a) in front of the decimal.

Step 2: If you had to move the decimal to the left (you started with a large number with several value places before the decimal), then your exponent is positive $(a \times 10^N)$. If you had to move the decimal to the right (you started with a decimal that had only 0 in front of it), then your exponent will be negative $(a \times 10^{-N})$.

EXAMPLES: Write the following in scientific notation.

Q) 238,400 =

R) 0.071 =

REVERSING THE PROCESS (going from scientific notation to decimal notation):

Look at the exponent on the 10. If the *exponent is negative*, move the decimal N spaces to the *left* (toward the negative end of the number line). If the *exponent is positive*, move the decimal N spaces to the *right* (toward the positive end of the number line).

EXAMPLES: Write the following in decimal notation.

$$S) -2.8 \times 10^4 =$$

$$T) 1.49 \times 10^{-5} =$$

MULTIPLYING & DIVIDING WITH SCIENTIFIC NOTATION.

Follow the usual rules of exponents, except separate the pieces. Simplify the numbers, then add/subtract the exponents on the 10's.

EXAMPLES:

$$U) (3 \times 10^2)(2 \times 10^4) =$$

$$V) (3.2 \times 10^{-3})(4.8 \times 10^{-4}) =$$

EXAMPLES:

$$W) \frac{2.8 \times 10^9}{1.4 \times 10^4} =$$

$$X) \frac{3.6 \times 10^3}{7.2 \times 10^{-1}} =$$

Homework:

*Pg. 351: # 19-24, 31, 33, 37, 41, 45,
51, 57, 65, 69, 71, 81, 83, 85, 87, 91,
101, 105, 115, 117, 121, 131.*