

II. Powers, Roots, and Logarithm

Powers/Indices is used when we want to multiply a number by itself several times.

$$a^b$$

In this term, a is called **base/basis** and b is called **index/exponent**. The word *power* sometimes also means the exponent alone rather than the result of an exponential expression.

How to Say Powers

x^2	x squared
x^3	x cubed
x^n	x to the power of n x to the n-th power x to the n x upper n x raised by n
$(x+y)^2$	x plus y all squared bracket x plus y bracket closed squared x plus y in bracket squared

Practice

A. Read out the following terms and say their values.

1. 2^6
2. $\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3$
3. $x^5 \div x^2$
4. $(3ab)^2$
5. $\left(\frac{x}{3y}\right)^3$
6. $(9x)^0$

B. Read these expressions and simplify them.

1. $5^3 \times 5^{13}$
2. $8^{14} \times 8^{11}$
3. $(2^4)^3$
4. $\left(\frac{x^7}{x^3}\right)^2$

LAWS FOR POWERS

For equal exponents

➤ **First Law for Power:**

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

A product raised by an exponent is equal to product of factors raised by same exponent

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

For equal basis

➤ **Second Law for Powers:**

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

- *The product of two powers with equal basis equals to the basis raised to the sum of the two exponents*
- *When expressions with the same base are multiplied, the indices are added*

How can we say this rule?

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

➤ **Third Law for Powers :**

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

Exponentiating of powers equals to the basis raised to the product of the two exponents

Practice

Try to express in words these other rules of powers:

1. $a^0 = 1$, $a \neq 0$.
2. $a^{-n} = 1/a^n$, $a \neq 0$.
3. $(a/b)^n = a^n/b^n$
4. $a^m \div a^n = a^{m-n}$

Roots and Radicals

Root is inversion of exponentiation

$$\sqrt[n]{a} = b \leftrightarrow b^n = a$$

$\sqrt[n]{a}$ is called **radical expression** (or **radical form**) because it contains a root.

The radical expression has several parts :

- The **radical sign** $\sqrt{\quad}$
- The **radicand** : the entire quantity under the radical sign
- The **index**: the number that indicates the root that is being taken

Example:

$\sqrt[3]{a+b}$ $a+b$ is the radicand, 3 is the index.

The radical expression can be written in **exponential form** (powers with fractional exponents)

example:

$$\sqrt[n]{x} = x^{1/n}$$

So the law of powers can be used in calculating root

Examples:

$$\sqrt[n]{ab} = (ab)^{1/n} = a^{1/n} b^{1/n} = \sqrt[n]{a} \sqrt[n]{b}$$

A number is said **perfect square** if its roots are integers.

Example:

9, 16, 36, and 100 are perfect squares, but 12 and 20 are not.

How to Say Radicals

\sqrt{x}	(square) root of x
$\sqrt[3]{y}$	cube root of y
$\sqrt[n]{z}$	n-th root of z
$\sqrt[5]{x^2y^3}$	fifth root of (pause) x squared times y cubed fifth root of x squared times y cubed in bracket

Square Root

The square root is in **simplest form** if :

- the radicand does not contain perfect squares other than 1.
- no fraction is contained in radicand.
- no radicals appear in the denominator of a fraction.

Example

$\sqrt{24}$ is not a simplest form because we can write it as $\sqrt{6 \times 4}$ where 4 is a perfect square.

We can simplify the radical into $2\sqrt{6}$

A radical and a number is called a **binomial** . The **conjugate** of binomial is another binomial with the same number and radical, but the sign of second term is changed.

Example

$2 + \sqrt{6}$ is a binomial and its conjugate is $2 - \sqrt{6}$

Practice

a. Read out the following radical expressions and say theirs exponential notation.

1. $\sqrt{4x^4}$

$$2. \sqrt[4]{m^3y^8}$$

$$3. \sqrt[5]{a^3}$$

$$4. \sqrt[8]{x^6y^9} 3$$

$$5. \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

b. Read out the following terms and say what their values are:

$$1. 243^{1/5}$$

$$2. -4^{-2}$$

$$3. 125^{1/3}$$

$$4. (-5)^{-1}$$

$$5. 3^{-3}$$

c. Simplify these radicals

$$1. \sqrt{72}$$

$$2. \sqrt{234}$$

$$3. \frac{5}{2+\sqrt{3}}$$

$$4. \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{6}-\sqrt{2}}$$

d. Find the conjugate of these binomials

$$1. 2+\sqrt{5}$$

$$2. 6-\sqrt{4}$$

Logarithm

How to Say Logarithm

${}^n\log x$	log /log/x to the base of n log base n of x
$\ln 2$	natural log of two “L N” of two
${}^5\log^2 25$	log squared of twenty-five to the base of five log base five of twenty-five all squared

Practice

Read out the following terms:

- $a^x \log b$
- $\log a^2$
- ${}^2\log(1/6)$
- ${}^5\log(x^2+y)$
- $({}^n\log x)^2$
- ${}^6\log^2 22 - {}^6\log x^2 - 1$

Laws for Logarithm

- First Law for logarithm:

The logarithm of a product is equal to the sum of the logarithm of the factors

$${}^b\log(xy) = {}^b\log x + {}^b\log y$$

- Second Law for logarithm:

The logarithm of a quotient is equal to the difference of the logarithms of the dividend and divisor

$${}^b\log(x/y) = {}^b\log x - {}^b\log y$$

- Third Law for logarithm:

The logarithm of a power is equal to the exponent times the logarithm of the basis

$${}^b\log(x^a) = a {}^b\log x$$

More Examples

${}^2\log(x+y) + 2 {}^2\log 4x > 4$	<i>log base two of x plus y in bracket plus two times log base two of four x's is greater than four</i>
$x^2 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} = 1$	<i>x squared plus (pause) one over root of x equals one</i>
$3^x + 9^{x-1} > 27$	<i>three upper x plus (pause) nine upper x minus one (pause) is more than twenty- seven</i>
$9^x - 1 < 2$	<i>nine to the x (pause) minus one is less than two</i>

Some Algebraic Processes

1. Expand $(x-3)(x+2)$ into x^2-x-6 .
2. Simplify $(2x+2)/(x+1)$ into 2
3. Factorize x^3-2x^2+3x-2 into $(x-1)(x+1)(x-2)$
4. Cancel $(x+1)$ from $(2x+2)/(x+1)$ to get 2
5. Add/subtract/multiply/divide both side

Examples: multiply both side of equation $\frac{1}{2}x=4$ with 2 to get $x=8$

6. Substitute $y=4$ into equation $2x+y=12$
7. Collect $(x+2)$ from $(x+2)^3-2(x+2)(x+1)$ to get $(x+2)[(x+2)^2-2(x+1)]$

Example

Find x that satisfy equation $3^x-3^{x-1}=162$.

Answer

First, we multiply both side with 3 to get $3 \cdot 3^x-3^x=486$.

Then, we collect 3^x and we have $3^x(3-1)=486$, which can be simplified into $2 \cdot 3^x=486$.

Divide both side by 2, we get $3^x=243$.

We know that 243 is 3^5 , so we can write $3^x=3^5$.

According to the rule of powers, x must be equal to 5.

Exercise

- a. How do we say these mathematical terms?

1. $({}^3\log x)^2 + {}^3\log x^2 = \sqrt[4]{4-x^3}$

2. $x^{\log(x+1)} = 0$

3. $\sqrt{2\sqrt{2}} = \log\left(\frac{x}{5}\right)$

- b. Read and complete answers.

1. $13^2 = \dots$

2. $2^9 = \dots$

3. Every positive real numbers has real-numbered square roots.

4. The cube root of two hundred and sixteen is

5. If the root of eighty-one is raised by three, then we have

6. 7 is the log base ten of

c. Solve this problem and try to explain it.

1. Which is greater, $2^{95}+2^{95}$ or 2^{100} ?

2. Which is the larger, $10^{1/10}$ or $2^{1/3}$?

3. Let A and B are real numbers greater than 1. If there is positive number $C \neq 1$ such that $2^{(A \log C + B \log C)} = 9^{AB \log C}$, then find the largest possible value for $A \log B$.

4. Given ${}^9 \log 20 = a$ and ${}^3 \log n = 4a$. What is the value of n?

5. In March, the number of students was a perfect square. At the end of the semester, with 100 new students, the number of students became 1 more than a perfect square. At the end of the year with an additional 100 new students, the number of students is a perfect square. How many students were there in September?

d. Explain the process to find the solution x that satisfies each equation, inequality, or system of equations.

1. $1 - 4x \leq x + 11$

2. $\frac{2}{3}y - \frac{5}{3} = \frac{4-2y}{5}$

3. $x + y = 2$

$$2x - y = -5$$