

**February 22, 2018**

**UNIT 1: ROOTS AND POWERS**

**SECTION 4.5:  
NEGATIVE EXPONENTS  
AND RECIPROCAL**



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*NUMBERS, RELATIONS AND FUNCTIONS 10*

**WHAT'S THE POINT OF TODAY'S LESSON?**

**We will continue working on the NRF 10 Specific Curriculum Outcome (SCO) "Algebra and Numbers 3" OR "AN3" which states:**

**"Demonstrate an understanding of powers with integral and rational exponents."**



## What does THAT mean???

SCO AN3 means that we will:

- \* apply the 6 exponent laws you learned in grade 9:

$$a^0 = 1$$

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

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

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

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

$$(a \div b)^n = a^n \div b^n$$

- \* use patterns to explain  $a^{-n} = \frac{1}{a^n}$  and  $a^{\frac{1}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{a}$

- \* apply all exponent laws to evaluate a variety of expressions
- \* express powers with rational exponents as radicals and vice versa
- \* identify and correct errors in work that involves powers



### WARM-UP:

Write the power below as a radical then evaluate.

$$\left( \frac{64}{125} \right)^{\frac{2}{3}} = \frac{16}{25}$$

**WHITE BOARD WARM-UP (Day 2):**

**First**, write the power below with a **positive exponent**. At this point, write the power as a **radical** then **evaluate**.

$$\left(\frac{64}{125}\right)^{-\frac{2}{3}} = \left(\frac{125}{64}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}} = \frac{25}{16}$$

**HOMEWORK QUESTIONS???**  
**(pages 227 / 228, #7, #8, #10, #11**  
**and #15 TO #21)**

**EXPONENT LAWS (separate sheet):**

1. **Zero Exponent Law:**  $a^0 = 1$
2. **Product of Powers:**  $(a^m)(a^n) = a^{m+n}$
3. **Quotient of Powers:**  $a^m \div a^n = a^{m-n}$
4. **Power of a Power:**  $(a^m)^n = a^{mn}$
5. **Power of a Product:**  $(ab)^m = a^m b^m$
6. **Power of a Quotient:**  $(a \div b)^n = a^n \div b^n$

**7. MULTIPLICATION PROPERTY OF RADICALS:**

$$\sqrt[n]{ab} = \sqrt[n]{a} \cdot \sqrt[n]{b}$$

**EX.:**  $\sqrt{24}$  (Factors: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 24)

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sqrt{4 \cdot 6} \\
 &= \sqrt{4} \cdot \sqrt{6} \\
 &= 2 \cdot \sqrt{6} \\
 &= 2\sqrt{6} \text{ (MIXED RADICAL)}
 \end{aligned}$$

**EX.:**  $\sqrt[3]{24}$  (ENTIRE RADICAL)

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sqrt[3]{8 \cdot 3} \\
 &= \sqrt[3]{8} \cdot \sqrt[3]{3} \\
 &= 2 \cdot \sqrt[3]{3} \\
 &= 2\sqrt[3]{3}
 \end{aligned}$$

## 8. POWERS WITH RATIONAL EXPONENTS WITH A NUMERATOR OF 1:

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

EX.:  $8^{\frac{1}{3}}$

$$= \sqrt[3]{8}$$

$$= 2$$

## 9. POWERS WITH RATIONAL EXPONENTS:

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{EXPONENT} \rightarrow m \\
 x^{\frac{m}{n}} = \left(x^{\frac{1}{n}}\right)^m \\
 \text{INDEX} \uparrow \\
 = \left(\sqrt[n]{x}\right)^m
 \end{array}
 \quad \text{AND} \quad
 \begin{array}{l}
 \text{EXPONENT} \rightarrow m \\
 x^{\frac{m}{n}} = \left(x^m\right)^{\frac{1}{n}} \\
 \text{INDEX} \uparrow \\
 = \sqrt[n]{x^m}
 \end{array}$$

EX.: Evaluate  $16^{\frac{3}{2}}$ .

$$\begin{array}{l}
 16^{\frac{3(\text{EXPONENT})}{2(\text{INDEX})}} \quad \text{OR} \quad 16^{\frac{3(\text{EXP.})}{2(\text{INDEX})}} \\
 = \left(\sqrt{16}\right)^3 \\
 = 4^3 \\
 = 64
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{l}
 = \sqrt{16^3} \\
 = \sqrt{4096} \\
 = 64
 \end{array}$$

**10. POWERS WITH NEGATIVE EXPONENTS:**

$$x^{-n} = \frac{1}{x^n} \quad \text{AND} \quad \frac{1}{x^{-n}} = x^n$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{EX.:} \quad & 4^{-2} \\ &= \frac{1}{4^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{16} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{EX.:} \quad & \frac{1}{5^{-2}} \\ &= 5^2 \\ &= 25 \end{aligned}$$

**VOCABULARY:**

**1. RECIPROCAL:** Two numbers whose product is 1.

**EX.:** 2 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  are reciprocals.

**We build on our understanding of powers to work with negative exponents.**

**For example:**

$$\begin{aligned} & 5^{-2} \cdot 5^2 \\ = & 5^{-2+2} \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{5^2}{5^2} \\ = & 5^0 \\ = & 1 \end{aligned}$$

**This means that  $5^{-2}$  and  $5^2$  are **RECIPROCAL**!**  
(Their product equals 1...)

**If...**

$$5^{-2} \cdot 5^2 = 1$$

**... then...**

$$5^{-2} \cdot 25 = 1$$

**... and this must actually mean...**

$$\frac{1}{25} \cdot 25 = 1$$

**... so...**

$$5^{-2} \text{ must be equal to } \frac{1}{25} \text{ or } \frac{1}{5^2} !!!$$

**Another scenario based on exponent laws:**

$$\begin{aligned} & 5^{-2} \cdot \frac{1}{5^{-2}} \\ &= \frac{5^{-2}}{5^{-2}} \\ &= 5^{-2 - (-2)} \\ &= 5^{-2+2} \\ &= 5^0 \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

This means that  $5^{-2}$  and  $\frac{1}{5^{-2}}$  are also **RECIPROCAL**!  
(Their product also equals 1...)

**"THE OLD FASHIONED WAY"... :)**

The way we used to teach the negative exponent rule:

$$\begin{aligned} & 2^3 \\ & 2^2 \\ & 2^1 \\ & 2^0 \\ & 2^{-1} \quad \frac{1}{2} \\ & 2^{-2} \quad \frac{1}{2^2} \\ & 2^{-3} \quad \frac{1}{2^3} \end{aligned}$$



**EXAMPLE:**

a)  $3^{-2}$

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

b)  $0.3^{-4}$

$$\left(\frac{3}{10}\right)^{-4}$$
$$\left(\frac{10}{3}\right)^4$$
$$\frac{10000}{81}$$

Basically, remember to take the reciprocal of the ENTIRE base and change the negative exponent to a positive exponent.

EX.:

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

$$= \left(-\frac{4}{3}\right)^3$$
$$= -\frac{64}{27}$$

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

" $\rightarrow$ "

**YOU TRY!**

Evaluate each power.

a)  $7^{-2}$   
 $\frac{1}{7^2}$   
 $\frac{1}{49}$

b)  $\left(\frac{10}{3}\right)^{-3}$   
 $\left(\frac{3}{10}\right)^3$   
 $\frac{27}{1000}$

c)  $(-1.5)^{-3}$   
 $-0.\overline{296}$

**EXAMPLE:**

Evaluate each power without using a calculator.

a)  $8^{-\frac{2}{3}}$   
 $= \frac{1}{8^{\frac{2}{3}}}$   
 $= \frac{1}{4}$

b)  $\left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^{-\frac{3}{2}}$   
 $\left(\frac{16}{9}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}$   
 $\frac{64}{27}$

**YOU TRY!**

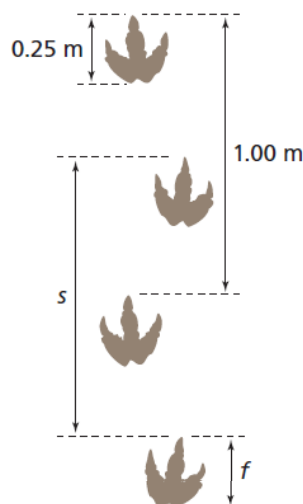
Evaluate each power without using a calculator.

a)  $16^{-\frac{5}{4}}$   
 $\frac{1}{16^{\frac{5}{4}}}$   
 $\frac{1}{32}$

b)  $\left(\frac{25}{36}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$   
 $\left(\frac{36}{25}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$   
 $\frac{6}{5}$

**EXAMPLE:**

Paleontologists use measurements from fossilized dinosaur tracks and the formula  $v = 0.155s^{\frac{5}{3}}f^{-\frac{7}{6}}$  to estimate the speed at which the dinosaur travelled. In the formula,  $v$  is the speed in metres per second,  $s$  is the distance between successive footprints of the same foot, and  $f$  is the foot length in metres. Use the measurements in the diagram to estimate the speed of the dinosaur.



**SOLUTION**

Use the formula:  $v = 0.155s^{\frac{5}{3}}f^{-\frac{7}{6}}$

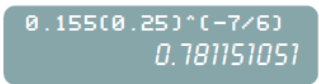
Substitute:  $s = 1$  and  $f = 0.25$

$$v = 0.155(1)^{\frac{5}{3}}(0.25)^{-\frac{7}{6}}$$

$$v = 0.155(0.25)^{-\frac{7}{6}}$$

$$v = 0.7811\dots$$

The dinosaur travelled at approximately 0.8 m/s.



**YOU TRY!**

Use the formula  $v = 0.155 s^{\frac{5}{3}} f^{-\frac{7}{6}}$   
to estimate the speed of a dinosaur  
when  $s = 1.5$  and  $f = 0.3$ .

Answer: approximately 1.2 m/s

**CONCEPT REINFORCEMENT:**

***FPCM 10:***

**Page 227: #3 to #16**

**Page 228: #17 to #21**

**CONCEPT REINFORCEMENT:**

***FPCM 10:***

**Page 233: #3 TO #14**

**Page 234: #15 TO #17ab and #18 TO #20**

**QUIZ PREPARATION - SECTIONS 4.4 & 4.5:  
(Fractional Exponents and Radicals; Negative  
Exponents and Reciprocals)**

***FPCM 10:***

**Page 236: #1 to #8 (ALL!)**