

## 7.2 Simplify Expressions Using the Laws of Exponents

Just a reminder. (You can find this list on page 542)

Rules

$$a^0 = 1 \quad \text{if } a \neq 0 \quad 2 \times 0 = 2$$

$$a^{-n} = \frac{1}{a^n} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{1}{a^{-n}} = a^n \quad \text{if } a \neq 0$$

$$a^m \cdot a^n = a^{m+n} \quad 2^{-2} = \frac{1}{4} \quad 2^2 = 4$$

$$\frac{a^m}{a^n} = a^{m-n} \quad \text{if } a \neq 0 \quad 2^{-3} = \frac{1}{8} \quad 2^3 = 8$$

$$(a^m)^n = a^{m \cdot n}$$

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

$$\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^n = \frac{a^n}{b^n} \quad \text{if } b \neq 0$$

$$\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^{-n} = \left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^n \quad \text{if } a \neq 0, b \neq 0$$

Quiz 7.1

1. (2 point) Simplify:

$$-\sqrt[5]{-243}$$

2. (2 point) Evaluate:

$$\frac{4}{8^{\frac{2}{3}}}$$

3. (2 point) Rewrite the radical with a rational exponent.

$$\left(\sqrt[5]{3x}\right)^2$$

$$63) \quad \left(\sqrt[5]{3x}\right)^2$$

$$\left((3x)^{\frac{1}{5}}\right)^2 = (3x)^{\frac{1}{5}} (3x)^{\frac{1}{5}}$$

$$(3x)^{\frac{2}{5}}$$

After you simplify you should have:

- Only positive exponents.
- Each base only occurring once.
- Have no parentheses in the expression.
- No powers written to powers.

Simplify each of the following:

$$27^{\frac{3}{2}} \cdot 27^{\frac{5}{6}}$$

$$27^{\frac{8}{6}} = 27^{\frac{4}{3}}$$

$$\frac{8^{\frac{1}{3}}}{8^{\frac{5}{3}}} = 8^{-\frac{4}{3}} = \frac{1}{8^{\frac{4}{3}}}$$

You Try

$$5^{\frac{3}{4}} \cdot 5^{\frac{1}{6}}$$

$$\frac{32^{\frac{6}{5}}}{32^{\frac{3}{5}}}$$

Simplify each of the following:

$$\left(36^{\frac{2}{5}}\right)^{\frac{5}{4}} = 36^{\frac{1}{2}} = 6$$

$$\left(x^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot y^{\frac{2}{3}}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} = x^{\frac{3}{4}} y$$

You Try

$$\left(100^{\frac{3}{8}}\right)^{\frac{4}{3}}$$

$$\left(a^{\frac{3}{2}} \cdot b^{\frac{5}{3}}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

Simplify the following:

$$\left(x^{\frac{2}{3}}y^{-1}\right) \cdot \left(x^{-1}y^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$= \left(x^{\frac{2}{3}}y^{-1}\right) \cdot \left(x^{-\frac{2}{3}}y^{\frac{1}{3}}\right)$$

$$= \cancel{x^0} y^{-\frac{2}{3}}$$

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

Simplify the following:

$$\left(\frac{9xy^{\frac{4}{3}}}{x^{\frac{5}{2}}y^{-\frac{2}{3}}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{9^{\frac{1}{2}}x^{\frac{1}{2}}y^{\frac{2}{3}}}{x^{\frac{5}{4}}y^{-\frac{1}{3}}} = \frac{3x^{\frac{1}{2}}y}{1}$$

$$\frac{2}{3} + -\frac{1}{3}$$

You Try

$$\left(\frac{25x^{\frac{1}{2}}y^{\frac{3}{4}}}{x^{-\frac{3}{4}}y}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Use rational exponents to simplify the radicals.

$$\sqrt[8]{16^4}$$

$$16^{\frac{1}{2}} = 4$$

$$\sqrt[3]{64x^6y^3}$$

$$4x^2y$$

Use rational exponents to simplify the radicals.

You try

$$\frac{\sqrt{x}}{\sqrt[3]{x^2}} = \frac{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}{x^{\frac{2}{3}}}$$

$$x^{-\frac{1}{6}} = \frac{1}{x^{\frac{1}{6}}}$$

$$\sqrt{\sqrt[3]{z}}$$

$$\sqrt{(z)^{\frac{1}{3}}}$$

$$\left((z)^{\frac{1}{3}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = z^{\frac{1}{6}}$$

$$\sqrt[10]{36^5}$$

$$\sqrt[4]{16a^8b^{12}}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt[3]{x^2}}{\sqrt[4]{x}}$$

$$\sqrt[4]{\sqrt[3]{a^2}}$$

$$13) \left(25^{\frac{3}{4}} \cdot 4^{\frac{3}{4}}\right)^2$$

$$= 25^{\frac{3}{2}} \cdot 4^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$\frac{25}{5 \cdot 5}$$

$$= \frac{25^{\frac{3}{2}}}{4^{\frac{3}{2}}} = \frac{\sqrt{25^3}}{\sqrt{4^3}} = \frac{125}{8}$$

$$45) \frac{\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt[4]{36}} = \left(\frac{6^{\frac{1}{2}}}{36^{\frac{1}{4}}}\right)^2 = \frac{6}{36^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot 36} = \frac{6}{36^{\frac{3}{2}}}$$

Not conjecture - Wrong!! Ha! Ha! = 6

$$\sqrt[4]{36} = \sqrt{36} \cdot \sqrt{36} = 6 \cdot 6 = 36$$

$$36^{\frac{1}{4}} = 36^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot 36^{\frac{1}{2}} = 36$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt[4]{36}} = \frac{6^{\frac{1}{2}}}{36^{\frac{1}{4}}} = \frac{6^{\frac{1}{2}}}{(6^2)^{\frac{1}{4}}} = \frac{6^{\frac{1}{2}}}{6^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$