

Laws of Exponents

1 Simplify this expression.

$$5^0 = 1$$

2 Simplify this expression.

$$y^1 = y$$

3 Simplify this expression.

$$2^{-1} = \frac{1}{2^1} \text{ or } \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \text{ (or 0.5)}$$

4 Re-write without using fraction form.

$$\frac{1}{x^3} = x^{-3}$$

5 Simplify this expression.

$$(x^2)^5 = x^{2 \cdot 5} = x^{10}$$

6 Simplify this expression.

$$(x^a)^b = x^{a \cdot b} \text{ or } x^{ab}$$

7 Simplify this expression.

$$a^2 \cdot a^4 = a^{2+4} = a^6$$

8 Simplify this expression.

$$a^2 \cdot a^{-4} = a^{2+(-4)} = a^{-2}$$

or $\frac{1}{a^2}$

9 Simplify this expression.

$$\frac{x^7}{x^5} = x^{7-5} = x^2$$

10 Can this be simplified? If "yes", then simplify it. If "no", then explain why.

$$\frac{a^2}{b^8} = \text{No,}$$

It can't be simplified
because the bases are
different.

11 Simplify this expression.

$$(ab)^3 = a^3b^3$$

12 Simplify this expression.

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