

## Section P.2 Exponents and Radicals

**Objective:** In this lesson you learned how to use properties of exponents and radicals to simplify and evaluate expressions.

Course Number

Instructor

Date

### Important Vocabulary

Define each term or concept.

**Exponential form**

**Scientific notation**

**Principal  $n$ th root**

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**Rational exponent**

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### I. Exponents (Pages 12–13)

In general, if  $b$  is a real number and  $r$  is a positive integer, then

$b^r = \underbrace{b \cdot b \cdot b \cdots b}_r$ , where  $r$  is the \_\_\_\_\_ and  $b$  is the

\_\_\_\_\_.

Complete the following properties of exponents.

$$(ab)^m = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \qquad a^{m+n} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$\frac{1}{a^n} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \qquad |a^2| = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$\frac{a^m}{a^n} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \qquad a^{mn} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$a^0 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \qquad \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^m = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

#### *What you should learn*

How to use properties of exponents

### II. Scientific Notation (Page 14)

When a number is written in scientific notation, a \_\_\_\_\_ exponent indicates that the number is between 0 and 1.

A \_\_\_\_\_ exponent indicates that the number is 10 or more.

#### *What you should learn*

How to use scientific notation to represent real numbers

- Example 1:** (a) Write 970,000 in scientific notation.  
 (b) Write  $8.3 \times 10^{-4}$  in decimal form.

### III. Radicals and Their Properties (Pages 15–16)

Let  $a$  and  $b$  be real numbers. If  $a = b^2$ , then  $b$  is the \_\_\_\_\_ of  $a$ . If  $a = b^3$ , then  $b$  is the \_\_\_\_\_ of  $a$ .

In  $\sqrt[n]{a}$ , the positive integer  $n$  is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the radical, and the number  $a$  is the \_\_\_\_\_.

The radical expression  $\sqrt{-36}$  is not a real number because . . .

***What you should learn***  
 How to use properties of radicals

**Example 2:** Simplify each radical expression.

(a)  $-\sqrt{\frac{81}{16}}$       (b)  $\sqrt[3]{3} \cdot \sqrt[3]{9}$

### IV. Simplifying Radicals (Pages 17–18)

An expression involving radicals is in **simplest form** when the following conditions are satisfied:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Radical expressions are **like radicals** if . . .

***What you should learn***  
 How to simplify and combine radicals

**Example 3:** Explain how to simplify a radical.

**V. Rationalizing Denominators and Numerators**

(Pages 18–19)

To change a radical expression so that it is free of radicals in the denominator is called \_\_\_\_\_.

The **conjugate** of the radical expression  $a + b\sqrt{m}$  is \_\_\_\_\_.

What type of rationalizing factor should be used if a denominator is of the form:

(a)  $\sqrt{m}$ ? \_\_\_\_\_

(b)  $\sqrt[3]{m}$ ? \_\_\_\_\_

**Example 4:** Explain how to rationalize the denominator of the

expression  $\frac{4 + \sqrt{13}}{5 - \sqrt{8}}$ .

***What you should learn***

How to rationalize denominators and numerators

**VI. Rational Exponents** (Pages 19–20)

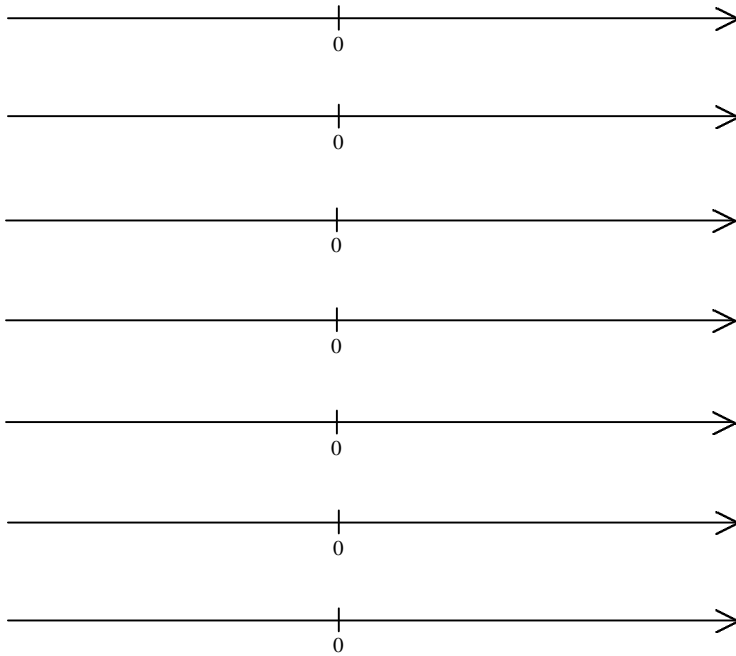
The numerator of a rational exponent denotes the \_\_\_\_\_ to which the base is raised, and the denominator denotes the \_\_\_\_\_ or the \_\_\_\_\_ to be taken.

**Example 5:** Write the radical expression  $\sqrt[4]{w^9}$  in exponential form.

**Example 6:** Explain how to simplify the expression  $\frac{x^{3/4}}{x^{2/3}}$ .

***What you should learn***

How to use properties of rational exponents

**Additional notes****Homework Assignment**

Page(s)

Exercises