

Simplifying Radicals

Topic: _____

Date: _____

Starter Problems:

1. Simplify the following expressions completely.

(a)
$$\frac{(-8p^5r^{-2}w^{-4})^3}{(6p^{-1}rw^7)(4p^{-3}r^6w^{-2})}$$

$$\frac{-8^3 p^{15} r^{-6} w^{-12}}{24 p^{-4} r^7 w^5}$$

$$\frac{-64 p^{19}}{3 r^{13} w^{17}}$$

(b) $(5x^5y^{-2})^3(2x^{-6}y^{10})$

$$125x^{15}y^{-6} \cdot 2x^{-6}y^{10}$$

$$250x^9y^4$$

Review:

If taking the root of the number you are given is not a whole number, then we can use perfect squares, cubes, etc. to break it down.

Background: List of perfect squares

1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, 81, 100, etc.

Review Examples: Simplify each radical expression fully.

1.) $\sqrt{12}$
 $\begin{array}{c} \wedge \\ 4 \quad 3 \end{array}$
 $2\sqrt{3}$

2.) $\sqrt{45}$
 $\begin{array}{c} \wedge \\ 9 \quad 5 \end{array}$
 $3\sqrt{5}$

3.) $\sqrt{32}$
 $\begin{array}{c} \wedge \\ 4 \quad 8 \\ \quad \wedge \\ \quad 4 \quad 2 \end{array}$
 $4\sqrt{2}$

4.) $\sqrt{75}$
 $\begin{array}{c} \wedge \\ 25 \quad 3 \end{array}$
 $5\sqrt{3}$

5.) $\sqrt{60}$
 $\begin{array}{c} \wedge \\ 6 \quad 10 \\ \wedge \quad \wedge \\ 3 \quad 2 \quad 5 \quad 2 \end{array}$
 $2\sqrt{15}$

6.) $\sqrt{128}$
 2^7
 $2^{7/2}$
 $2^3\sqrt{2}$
 $8\sqrt{2}$

List of perfect cubes...

1, 8, 27, 64, 125, 216, etc.

Additional Examples: Simplify each radical expression fully.

10.) $\sqrt[3]{72}$

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \wedge \\ 9 & 8 \\ \uparrow & \uparrow \\ 3^2 & 2^3 \end{array}$$

$2\sqrt[3]{9}$

11.) $\sqrt[3]{162}$

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \wedge \\ 2 & 9^2 \\ & \uparrow \\ & 3^4 \end{array}$$

$3\sqrt[3]{3} \cdot 2$ $3\sqrt[3]{6}$

12.) $\sqrt[3]{-192}$

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \wedge \\ 16 & 12 \\ \uparrow & \uparrow \\ 2^4 & 3 \cdot 4 \end{array}$$

$-4\sqrt[3]{3}$

$2^6 3^1 - 2^2 \sqrt[3]{3}$

13.) $\sqrt[3]{250}$

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \wedge \\ 125 & 2 \\ \uparrow & \\ 5^3 & \end{array}$$

$5\sqrt[3]{2}$

14.) $\sqrt[3]{-40}$

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \wedge \\ 10 & 4 \\ \uparrow & \uparrow \\ 2 \cdot 5 & 2^2 \\ \uparrow & \\ 2^3 \cdot 5 & \end{array}$$

$-2\sqrt[3]{5}$

15.) $\sqrt[3]{-432}$

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \wedge \\ 144 & 3 \\ \uparrow & \\ 12^2 & \\ \uparrow & \\ 3^2 \cdot 2^4 & \end{array}$$

$3^3 \cdot 2^4$

$-3 \cdot 2\sqrt[3]{2}$

$-6\sqrt[3]{2}$

16.) $\sqrt[3]{120}$

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \wedge \\ 12 & 10 \\ \uparrow & \uparrow \\ 3 \cdot 4 & 5 \cdot 2 \\ \uparrow & \uparrow \\ 2 \cdot 2 & \end{array}$$

$2\sqrt[3]{15}$

17.) $\sqrt[3]{189}$

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \wedge \\ 6^3 & 3 \\ \uparrow & \\ 7 \cdot 9 & \cdot 3 \\ \uparrow & \uparrow \\ 3^3 \cdot 7 & \end{array}$$

$3\sqrt[3]{7}$

18.) $\sqrt[3]{-500}$

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \wedge \\ 100 & 5 \\ \uparrow & \\ 10 & 10 \\ \uparrow & \uparrow \\ 5 \cdot 2 & 5 \cdot 2 \end{array}$$

$2^2 \cdot 5^3$

$-5\sqrt[3]{4}$

19.) $\sqrt[4]{405}$

$81 = 3^4$

$3\sqrt[4]{5}$

20.) $\sqrt[5]{224}$

$$\begin{array}{cc} & \wedge \\ 4 & 56 \\ \uparrow & \uparrow \\ 2^2 & 2^3 \cdot 7 \end{array}$$

$2^5 \cdot 7$

$2\sqrt[5]{7}$

Note:

If the exponent of the variable is NOT divisible by n, then we need to break up the variable and take out as many as possible.

Examples: Simplify fully.

1.) $\sqrt{a^{10}b^9}$

$$a^{10/2} b^{9/2}$$

$$a^5 b^4 \sqrt{b}$$

2.) $\sqrt[3]{c^5d^{13}}$

$$c^{5/3} d^{13/3}$$

$$c d^4 \sqrt[3]{c^2 d}$$

3.) $\sqrt[4]{h^{15}k^{28}}$

$$h^{15/4} k^{28/4}$$

$$h^3 k^7 \sqrt[4]{h^3}$$

4.) $\sqrt[6]{m^{14}n^3}$

$$m^{14/6} n^{3/6}$$

$$m^2 \sqrt[6]{m^2 n^3}$$

Notes:

Finding the nth root of a number depends on whether the number is + or - and whether the root is even or odd:

a	n	$\sqrt[n]{a}$
+	even	\pm ans
+	odd	1^+ ans
-	even	can't do
-	odd	1^- ans.

We can also simplify radicals that contain both numbers and variable!

To find the nth root of a variable, we need to divide the exponents of the variable by n...

5.) $\sqrt{300p^{27}}$
 \wedge
 100 3

$10p^3\sqrt{3p}$

6.) $\sqrt[3]{686r^{20}}$
 $7^3 \cdot 2$

$7r^6\sqrt[3]{2r^2}$

7.) $\sqrt[4]{2500x^{35}y^{13}}$
 $5^4 2^2 x^{35} y^{13}$

$5x^8y^3\sqrt[4]{4x^3y}$

8.) $\sqrt[5]{1701u^{34}w^{11}}$
 $3^5 \cdot 7u^{34}w^{11}$
 $3u^6w^2\sqrt[5]{7u^4w}$

$3u^6w^2\sqrt[5]{7u^4w}$

Examples: Simplify each expression fully.

1.) $\sqrt{81w^8}$

$$3^4 w^8$$

$$9w^4$$

2.) $\sqrt{49p^6}$

$$7^2 p^6$$

$$7p^3$$

3.) $\sqrt{196h^{12}k^{22}}$

$$14^2 h^{12} k^{22}$$

$$14h^6 k^{11}$$

4.) $\sqrt[3]{216j^{15}}$

$$6^3 j^{15}$$

$$6j^5$$

5.) $\sqrt[3]{-729u^6}$

$$-9u^2$$

6.) $\sqrt[3]{64a^{21}b^{30}}$

$$4^3 a^{21} b^{30}$$

$$4a^7 b^{10}$$

7.) $\sqrt[4]{625c^8}$

$$5^4 c^8$$

$$5c^2$$

8.) $\sqrt[4]{16d^{20}}$

$$2^4 d^{20}$$

$$2d^5$$

9.) $\sqrt[4]{2401x^{36}y^{16}}$

$$7^4 x^{36} y^{16}$$

$$7x^9 y^4$$

10.) $\sqrt[5]{243a^{10}b^{35}}$

$$3^5 a^{10} b^{35}$$

$$3a^2 b^7$$

11.) $\sqrt[6]{64c^{12}d^{30}}$

$$2^6 c^{12} d^{30}$$

$$2c^2 d^5$$

12.) $\sqrt[7]{-78125h^{42}k^{21}}$

$$-5^7 h^{42} k^{21}$$

$$-5h^6 k^3$$

Extra Practice: Directions: Simplify each expression.

1.) $\sqrt{256a^{20}}$

$16a^{10}$

2.) $\sqrt[3]{729b^{18}}$

$9^3 b^{18}$

$9b^6$

3.) $\sqrt[4]{1296c^{12}}$

$6^4 c^{12}$

$6c^3$

4.) $\sqrt[3]{-128d^{56}}$

~~$-2^7 d^{56}$~~

$-2d^8$

5.) $\sqrt{25g^{16}h^{26}}$

$5g^8h^{13}$

6.) $\sqrt[3]{125j^{21}k^3}$

$5j^7k$

7.) $\sqrt[4]{81m^{20}n^{28}}$

$3m^5n^7$

8.) $\sqrt[5]{16807p^{10}r^{40}}$

$7p^2r^8$

9.) $\sqrt[6]{4096u^{48}v^{60}}$

$4u^8v^{10}$

10.) $\sqrt[7]{2187x^{35}y^{14}}$

$3x^5y^2$

Homework: Simplifying Radicals

Directions: Simplify fully by simplifying each expression in radical form.

1.) $\sqrt{m^9 n^{15}}$

$$m^{9/2} n^{15/2}$$

Answer:

$$m^4 n^7 \sqrt{mn}$$

2.) $\sqrt{567w^{26}}$

$$3^4 \cdot 7w^{26}$$

Answer:

$$9w^{13} \sqrt{7}$$

3.) $\sqrt[3]{a^{16} b^2}$

$$a^{16/3} b^{2/3}$$

Answer:

$$a^5 \sqrt[3]{ab^2}$$

4.) $\sqrt[3]{324h^5 k^{21}}$

$$\cancel{2^3} \cancel{3^4} \cancel{x^{20}} \cancel{y^{27}} \\ 3^{4/3} 2^{2/3} h^{5/3} k^{21/3}$$

Answer:

$$3hk^7 \sqrt[3]{12h^2}$$

$$\cancel{4x^5} \cancel{y^6} \cancel{y^3} \cancel{y^3}$$

5.) $\sqrt[4]{768x^{20}y^{27}}$

$$\cancel{2^5} \cancel{3^3} \cancel{2^4} \quad 2^8 \cdot 3x^{20}y^{27}$$

Answer:

$$4x^5 y^6 \sqrt[4]{3y^3}$$

6.) $\sqrt[5]{288c^{18}d^5}$

$$2^5 3^2 c^{18} d^5$$

Answer:

$$2c^3 d \sqrt[5]{9c^3}$$

7.) $\sqrt{192a^{17}b^{31}}$

$$2^{1/2} \cdot 3^{1/2} \cdot 17^{1/2} \cdot b^{31/2}$$

Answer:

$$8a^8b^{15}\sqrt{ab}$$

8.) $\sqrt[3]{135g^{11}}$

$$3^3 5g^{11}$$

Answer:

$$3g^3\sqrt[3]{5g^2}$$

9.) $\sqrt[3]{864c^{16}d^{12}}$

$$2^5 3^3 c^{16} d^{12}$$

Answer:

$$6c^5d^4\sqrt[3]{4c}$$

10.) $\sqrt[4]{1250h^{31}k^{24}}$

$$2 \cdot 5^4 h^{31} k^{24}$$

Answer:

$$5h^7k^6\sqrt[4]{2h^3}$$

11.) $\sqrt[5]{2430m^{17}n^{44}}$

$$2 \cdot 3^5 \cdot 5m^{17}n^{44}$$

Answer:

$$3m^3n^8\sqrt[5]{10m^2n^4}$$

12.) $\sqrt[6]{320p^{53}r^{10}}$

$$2^6 \cdot 5p^{53}r^{10}$$

Answer:

$$2p^8r\sqrt[6]{5p^5r^4}$$

Topic: _____

Rational Exponents

Date: _____

Starter Problems:

(1.) Simplify: $\sqrt[6]{729m^{24}n^{42}}$

$$3^6 m^{24} n^{42}$$

$$\textcircled{3m^4n^7}$$

(2.) Simplify: $\sqrt{5x^6y^3z} \cdot \sqrt{12x^5y^{10}z^2}$

$$2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5x^{11}y^{13}z^3$$

$$\textcircled{2x^5y^6z\sqrt{15xyz}}$$

Review:

1.) $x^0 = 1$

2.) $x^1 = x$

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

4.) $x^{-3} = \frac{1}{x^3}$

5.) $8^{-2} = \frac{1}{64}$

6.) $3^{-5} = \frac{1}{243}$

Rule #1:

$x^{1/a} =$

$\sqrt[a]{x^1}$

power
root

Rule #2:

$x^{b/a} =$

$\sqrt[a]{x^b}$

Examples:

1.) $100^{1/2} = (10^2)^{1/2} = \textcircled{10}$

2.) $625^{1/4} = (5^4)^{1/4} = \textcircled{5}$

3.) $343^{1/3} = (7^3)^{1/3} = \textcircled{7}$

4.) $(-1024)^{1/5} = (-4^5)^{1/5} = \textcircled{-4}$

5.) $64^{3/2} = (2^6)^{3/2} = 2^9 = \textcircled{512}$

6.) $1296^{3/4} = (6^4)^{3/4} = \textcircled{216}$

7.) $(-27)^{5/3} = (-3^3)^{5/3} = \textcircled{-243}$

8.) $(-32)^{6/5} = (-2^5)^{6/5} = \textcircled{64}$

Rule #3: $x^{-1/a} = \frac{1}{x^{1/a}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt[a]{x}}$

Rule #4: $x^{-b/a} = \frac{1}{x^{b/a}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt[a]{x^b}}$

Examples:

9.) $2401^{-1/4} = (7^4)^{-1/4} = \left(\frac{1}{7}\right)$

10.) $729^{-1/3} = (9^3)^{-1/3} = \left(\frac{1}{9}\right)$

11.) $289^{-1/2} = (17^2)^{-1/2} = \left(\frac{1}{17}\right)$

12.) $(-7776)^{-1/5} = (-6^9)^{-1/5} = \left(\frac{-1}{6}\right)$

13.) $16^{-7/4} = (2^4)^{-7/4} = \left(\frac{1}{128}\right)$

14.) $4096^{-5/6} = (2^{12})^{-5/6} = 2^{-10} = \left(\frac{1}{1024}\right)$

15.) $(-512)^{-2/3} = (-8^3)^{-2/3} = \left(\frac{1}{64}\right)$

16.) $(-243)^{-7/5} = (-3^5)^{-7/5} = \left(\frac{1}{-2187}\right)$

Practice: Simplify each expression.

1.) $125^{1/3} = (5^3)^{1/3} = (5)$

2.) $36^{3/2} = (6^2)^{3/2} = (216)$

3.) $27^{4/3} = (3^3)^{4/3} = (81)$

4.) $4096^{3/4} = (8^4)^{3/4} = (512)$

5.) $512^{2/3} = (8^3)^{2/3} = (64)$

6.) $6561^{5/8} = (3^8)^{5/8} = (243)$

7.) $(-243)^{1/5} = (-3^5)^{1/5} = (-3)$

8.) $(-64)^{5/3} = (-2^{6/2})^{5/3} = (-1024)$

$(-4)^5$

9.) $(-1024)^{\frac{2}{5}}$

$(-4^5)^{\frac{2}{5}} = 16$

10.) $(-216)^{\frac{4}{3}}$

$(-6^3)^{\frac{4}{3}} = 1296$

11.) $4096^{-\frac{1}{6}}$

$(8^4)^{-\frac{1}{6}} (2^{12})^{-\frac{1}{6}} = \frac{1}{4}$

12.) $81^{-\frac{5}{4}}$

$(9^2)^{-\frac{5}{4}} (3^4)^{-\frac{5}{4}} = \frac{1}{243}$

13.) $121^{-\frac{3}{2}}$

$(11^2)^{-\frac{3}{2}} = \frac{1}{1331}$

14.) $625^{-\frac{7}{4}}$

$(5^4)^{-\frac{7}{4}} = \frac{1}{78125}$

15.) $64^{-\frac{5}{6}}$

$(8^2)^{-\frac{5}{6}} (2^9)^{-\frac{5}{6}} = \frac{1}{32}$

16.) $(-1728)^{-\frac{1}{3}}$

$(-12^3)^{-\frac{1}{3}} = \frac{-1}{12}$

17.) $(-343)^{-\frac{4}{3}}$

$(-7^3)^{-\frac{4}{3}} = \frac{1}{2401}$

18.) $(-3125)^{-\frac{3}{5}}$

$(-5^5)^{-\frac{3}{5}} = \frac{-1}{125}$

19.) $(-8)^{-\frac{7}{3}}$

$(-2^3)^{-\frac{7}{3}} = \frac{1}{-128}$

20.) $(-2187)^{-\frac{2}{7}}$

$(-3^7)^{-\frac{2}{7}} = \frac{1}{9}$

More Important Rules:

$$(x^m)^n = X^{m \cdot n}$$

$$\frac{x^m}{x^n} = X^{m-n}$$

$$x^m \cdot x^n = X^{m+n}$$

New Examples:

1.) $4^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot 4^{\frac{2}{3}} =$ (4)

2.) $5^{\frac{1}{4}} \cdot 5^{\frac{3}{2}} =$ $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{2} \times 2$
 $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{6}{4}$ $(5^{\frac{7}{4}})$

3.) $7^{\frac{5}{6}} \cdot 7^{\frac{3}{4}} =$ $7^{\frac{10}{12} + \frac{9}{12}}$
 $(7^{\frac{19}{12}})$

4.) $\sqrt{3} \cdot \sqrt[4]{3} =$ $3^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot 3^{\frac{1}{4}} = (3^{\frac{3}{4}})$

5.) $\sqrt[5]{6} \cdot \sqrt[3]{6} =$ $6^{\frac{1}{5}} + \frac{1}{3}$ $(6^{\frac{8}{15}})$

Examples (cont.):

6.) $\frac{2^{\frac{7}{4}}}{2^{\frac{5}{4}}} =$ $2^{\frac{7}{4} - \frac{5}{4}}$
 $(2^{\frac{2}{4}})$

7.) $\frac{3^{\frac{1}{2}}}{3^{\frac{9}{4}}} =$ $3^{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{9}{4}}$ $3^{-\frac{7}{4}}$ $(\frac{1}{3^{\frac{7}{4}}})$

8.) $\frac{\sqrt[3]{10}}{\sqrt[4]{10}} =$ $10^{\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4}}$
 $(10^{\frac{1}{12}})$

9.) $\frac{\sqrt[5]{8}}{\sqrt{2}} =$ $2^{\frac{3}{5} - \frac{1}{2}}$
 $2^{\frac{6}{10} - \frac{5}{10}}$ $(2^{\frac{1}{10}})$

10.) $\frac{\sqrt[5]{9}}{\sqrt[4]{27}} =$ $\frac{3^{\frac{2}{5}}}{3^{\frac{3}{4}}}$ $3^{\frac{2}{5} - \frac{3}{4}}$
 $3^{\frac{8}{20} - \frac{15}{20}}$ $3^{-\frac{7}{20}}$ $(\frac{1}{3^{\frac{7}{20}}})$

HOMEWORK: Rational Exponents:

Simplify each expression completely.

1.) $7776^{\frac{1}{5}}$ $(6^5)^{\frac{1}{5}} = 6$

2.) $64^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ $(2^6)^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{2^3} = \frac{1}{8}$

3.) $81^{\frac{5}{4}}$ $(3^4)^{\frac{5}{4}} = 243$

4.) $343^{-\frac{2}{3}}$ $(7^3)^{-\frac{2}{3}} = \frac{1}{(7)^2} = \frac{1}{49}$

5.) $(-1024)^{\frac{3}{5}}$ $(-4^5)^{\frac{3}{5}} = -64$

6.) $(-125)^{-\frac{4}{3}}$ $(-5^3)^{-\frac{4}{3}} = \frac{1}{(-5)^4} = \frac{1}{625}$

7.) $4^{\frac{2}{3}} \cdot 4^{\frac{5}{2}}$ $4^{\frac{2}{3} + \frac{5}{2}}$
 $4^{\frac{4}{6} + \frac{15}{6}} = 4^{\frac{19}{6}}$

8.) $\frac{3}{7^4} \cdot \frac{1}{7^5}$ $7^{\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{5} \times 4}$
 $7^{\frac{15}{20} - \frac{4}{20}} = 7^{\frac{11}{20}}$

9.) $\sqrt[4]{5} \cdot \sqrt[3]{5}$ $5^{\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{3}} = 5^{\frac{7}{12}}$

10.) $\frac{\sqrt[6]{3}}{\sqrt{3}}$ $\frac{3^{\frac{1}{6}}}{3^{\frac{1}{2}}}$
 $3^{\frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{2} \times 3} = 3^{-\frac{2}{6}} = \frac{1}{3^{\frac{1}{3}}}$

11.) $\sqrt[3]{25} \cdot \sqrt[4]{125}$ $5^{\frac{2}{3}} \cdot 5^{\frac{3}{4}}$
 $5^{\frac{8}{12} + \frac{9}{12}} = 5^{\frac{17}{12}}$

12.) $\frac{\sqrt[3]{343}}{\sqrt[5]{49}}$ $\frac{(7^3)^{\frac{1}{3}}}{(7^2)^{\frac{1}{5}}}$
 $7^{\frac{3}{2} - \frac{2}{5} \times 2} = 7^{\frac{15}{10} - \frac{4}{10}} = 7^{\frac{11}{10}}$

EXTRA PRACTICE:

Directions: Simplify each expression

1.) $(7a^3b^{-5})(4a^2b)$

$28a^5b^{-4}$

$\frac{28a^5}{b^4}$

2.) $\frac{(10m^5n^{-1})(6m^{-2}n^{-4})}{4mn^{-9}}$

$\frac{60m^3n^{-5}}{4mn^{-9}}$

$15m^2n^4$

3.) $(5c^4d^{-2})^{-3}$

$5^{-3}c^{-12}d^6$

$\frac{d^6}{125c^{12}}$

4.) $\sqrt[3]{243} \cdot \sqrt{27}$

$(3^5)^{1/3} (3^3)^{1/2}$
 $3^{5/3 \times 2} \cdot 3^{3/2 \times 3}$

$3^{10/6} + \frac{9}{6}$
 $3^{19/6}$

5.) $\frac{\sqrt[6]{32}}{8^5}$

$2^{5/6}$

6.) $625^{-1/4}$

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

$\frac{1}{5}$

$2^{5/6 \times 5 - 12/5 \times 6} \cdot \frac{(2^3)^4}{2^5}$
 $2^{25/30 - 72/30} \cdot \frac{1}{2^{20/30}}$
 $\frac{1}{2^{47/30}}$

7.) $(-7776)^{3/5}$

$(-6^5)^{3/5} (-6)^3$

-216

8.) $(-64)^{-4/3}$

$(-4^3)^{-4/3} \cdot \frac{1}{(-4)^4} = \frac{1}{256}$

Write the expression in radical form.

A. $x^{2/3}$

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

B. $-2^{3/4}$

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

$-\sqrt[4]{8}$

C. $(-2)^{3/2}$

$\sqrt[3]{(-2)^2}$

D. $7(a+1)^{-1/2}$

$\frac{7}{\sqrt{a+1}}$