

n^{th} Roots & Rational Exponents

$$\text{base}^{\frac{\text{exponent}}{\text{root (index)}}} = \text{root (index)} \sqrt[\text{root (index)}]{\text{base}^{\text{exponent}}}$$

Examples:

$a^{3/4} = \sqrt[4]{a^3}$ or $(\sqrt[4]{a})^3$

$\sqrt{x} = x^{1/2}$

1. Rewrite the following in radical form & simplify if possible.

a. $(x^4)^{1/5} = \sqrt[5]{x^4} = 5\sqrt{x^4}$ $2^3 = 8$

b. $48^{2/3} = \sqrt[3]{48^2} = (\sqrt[3]{8 \cdot 6})^2 = (2\sqrt[3]{6})^2 = 4\sqrt[3]{6^2}$
 $(2 \cdot 6^{1/3})^2 = 4 \cdot 6^{2/3}$

c. $(32x)^{2/5} = (\sqrt[5]{32x})^2 = 2^4 = 16$
 $25^{5/2} = (\sqrt{25})^5 = 5^5 =$
 $(\sqrt[5]{16 \cdot 2x})^3 = 8 \sqrt[5]{2x^3}$

d. $27^{-4/3} = \sqrt[3]{27^{-4}} = 3^{-4} = \frac{1}{3^4} = \frac{1}{81}$

e. $(\frac{1}{8})^{-1/3} = (8)^{1/3} = \sqrt[3]{8} = 2$
 or $\sqrt[3]{\frac{1}{8}^{-1}} = (\frac{1}{2})^{-1} = 2$

f. $(-27)^{2/3} = \sqrt[3]{(-27)^2} = \sqrt[3]{(-3)^2} = 9$ $(-3)^2 = -3 \cdot -3$

2. Simplify the rational exponents using properties of exponents & then rewrite the final answer in radical form.

a. $x^{1/5} \cdot x^{2/5} = x^{1/5 + 2/5} = x^{3/5} = \sqrt[5]{x^3}$

b. $\frac{a^{5/3}}{a^{1/3}} = a^{5/3 - 1/3} = a^{4/3} = \sqrt[3]{a^4}$

c. $\frac{m^{2/3} \cdot m^{-1/2}}{m^{1/6}} = \frac{m^{2/3 - 1/2}}{m^{1/6}} = \frac{m^{1/6}}{m^{1/6}} = m^{1/6 - 1/6} = m^0 = 1$

d. $(p^{3/4})^{2/5} = p^{3/4 \cdot 2/5} = p^{3/10} = \sqrt[10]{p^3}$

e. $(\frac{w^{1/6}}{w^{2/3}})^2 = \frac{w^{1/3}}{w^{4/3}} = w^{1/3 - 4/3} = w^{-1} = \frac{1}{w}$
 $w^{5/3} = \sqrt[3]{w^5}$
 $w \sqrt[3]{w^2}$

3. Rewrite the following radicals using rational exponents.

a. $\sqrt[3]{p^3} = p^{3/3} = p^1 = p$

b. $(\sqrt[4]{5a})^3 = (5a)^{3/4}$

c. $\sqrt[5]{(2x)^{10}} = (2x)^{10/5} = (2x)^2 = 4x^2$

d. $\sqrt[2]{27x^3y} = (27x^3y)^{1/2} = 27^{1/2} x^{3/2} y^{1/2}$

HW: p. 4-6 omit # 44-45

$$3^5 = 243$$

31. $\sqrt[5]{27x} \cdot \sqrt[5]{9x^4}$

$$\sqrt[5]{243x^5} = 3x$$

$$2^2 = 4$$

$$2^3 = 8$$

$$3^2 = 9$$

$$3^3 = 27$$

$$4^2 = 16$$

$$4^3 = 64$$

$$5^2 = 25$$

$$5^3 = 125$$

$$6^2 = 36$$

$$6^3 = 216$$

$$7^2 = 49$$

$$7^3 = 343$$

$$8^2 = 64$$

HW~

WS #3



I can convert and simplify rational exponents and radicals.