

Name: KEY

Topic: 7.1 nth Roots and Rational Exponents

Summary:

Rewriting radical form in exponent notation and exponent notation in radical form:

$$\sqrt[n]{a^m} \text{ is the same as } (a^m)^{\frac{1}{n}} \rightarrow a^{\frac{m}{n}} \rightarrow a^{\frac{\text{in}}{\text{out}}} \rightarrow \sqrt[n]{m^{\text{in}}}$$

Examples:

1.  $\sqrt[3]{15^2}$   
 $15^{\frac{2}{3}}$

2.  $\sqrt[6]{3^2}$   
 $3^{\frac{2}{6}} = 3^{\frac{1}{3}}$

3.  $\sqrt[3]{x^7}$   
 $x^{\frac{7}{3}}$

4.  $4^{\frac{1}{3}}$   
 $\sqrt[3]{4}$

5.  $10^{\frac{3}{4}}$   
 $\sqrt[4]{10^3}$

6.  $y^{\frac{8}{13}}$   
 $\sqrt[13]{y^8}$

7.  $\frac{\sqrt{2x^4}}{2} = \frac{162}{2}$   
 $\sqrt[4]{x^4} = \sqrt[4]{81}$   
 $x = \pm 3$   
 $\sqrt[4]{81} = 3$   
 $\sqrt[4]{81} = 3$   
 $\sqrt[4]{81} = 3$   
 $\sqrt[4]{81} = 3$

8.  $z^{\frac{7}{10}}$

$\sqrt[10]{z^7}$

9.  $\sqrt[2]{z^5}$   
 $z^{\frac{5}{2}}$

Finding nth roots

INDEX (n)

Number needed to  
"circle/cancel"

$\sqrt[n]{a^m}$

BASE (a)

Make a factor tree

EXPONENT (m)

How many of the  
same factor tree

Examples: Find the nth root  $\sqrt[n]{a}$  for the given values of n and a

n = how many factors needed to Circle/cancel.

10.  $n = 5; a = 32$

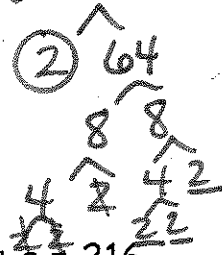
$$\sqrt[5]{32} = 2$$



\*Note:  
 $2^5 = 32$

11.  $n = 4; a = 128$

$$\sqrt[4]{128} = 2\sqrt[4]{2^3} = \boxed{2\sqrt[4]{8}}$$

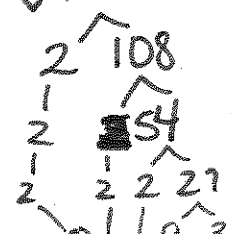


12.  $n = 8; a = 2$

$$\sqrt[8]{2}$$

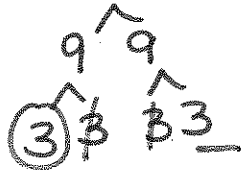
13.  $n = 3; a = 216$

$$\sqrt[3]{216} = 2 \cdot 3 = \boxed{6}$$



\*Note:  
 $6^3 = 216$

14.  $\sqrt[3]{81}$



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

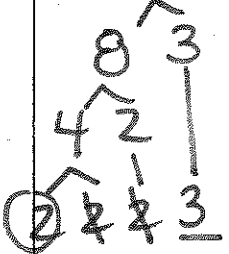
15.  $\sqrt[5]{64}$



$$\boxed{2\sqrt[5]{2}}$$

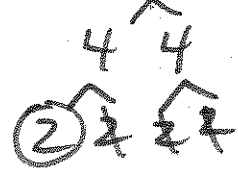
16.  $\sqrt[3]{24}$

$$= \boxed{2\sqrt[3]{3}}$$



17.  $\sqrt[4]{16}$

$$= \boxed{2}$$



\*Note:  
 $2^4 = 16$

18.  $(1)^{\frac{1}{6}}$

$$\sqrt[6]{1} = 1$$

19.  $(4)^{\frac{3}{5}}$

\*Same as #15

$$\sqrt[5]{4^3} = \sqrt[5]{64} =$$

$$\boxed{2\sqrt[5]{2}}$$

Even/Odd Rules: 
 $\swarrow$  index  
 $\searrow$  Base

If the index is odd  $\rightarrow$  the nth root will have the same sign as the base

If the index is even  $\rightarrow$  the nth root will be  $\pm$  (if the base number is negative I will be used)

20.  $\sqrt[4]{-81} = \boxed{\pm 3i}$

$\begin{array}{c} 9 \quad +9 \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \textcircled{3} \quad 3 \quad 3 \quad 3 \end{array}$

21.  $\sqrt[4]{-16} = \boxed{\pm 2i}$

$\begin{array}{c} 4 \quad 4 \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \textcircled{2} \quad 2 \quad 2 \quad 2 \end{array}$

22.  $(-8)^{\frac{1}{3}} = \boxed{-2}$

$\begin{array}{c} 3\sqrt{-8} \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \textcircled{2} \quad 2 \quad 2 \end{array}$

\* Keep sign of base  $\rightarrow (-8)$

23.  $(-64)^{\frac{1}{3}} = -2 \cdot 2 = \boxed{-4}$

$\begin{array}{c} 3\sqrt{-64} \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \begin{array}{c} 8 \quad 8 \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \textcircled{2} \quad 2 \quad 2 \quad \textcircled{2} \quad 2 \quad 2 \end{array} \end{array}$

\* Keep sign of base  $\rightarrow (-64)$

24.  $6^{\frac{2}{3}}$

$\begin{array}{c} 3\sqrt{6^2} = \\ \boxed{3\sqrt{36}} \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \begin{array}{c} 6 \quad 6 \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ 2 \quad 3 \quad 2 \quad 3 \end{array} \end{array}$

\* Cannot factor out a group of 3.

25.  $(-8)^{\frac{5}{3}}$

$\begin{array}{c} 3\sqrt{(-8)^5} = 2^5 = \\ \begin{array}{c} 3\sqrt{-32,768} \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \begin{array}{c} 8 \quad 4096 \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \begin{array}{c} 4 \quad 2 \quad 2 \quad 2048 \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \textcircled{2} \quad 2 \quad 2 \quad \textcircled{2} \quad 2 \quad 2 \quad 1024 \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \textcircled{2} \quad 2 \quad 2 \quad 512 \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \textcircled{2} \quad 2 \quad 2 \quad 256 \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ 16 \quad 16 \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ 4 \quad 4 \quad 4 \quad 4 \end{array} \end{array} \end{array} \end{array}$

# Solving equations using nth roots

Evens  $\rightarrow \pm$   
 Odds  $\rightarrow$  Keep sign

26.  $2x^4 = 162$

$$\frac{2x^4}{2} = \frac{162}{2}$$

$$\sqrt[4]{x^4} = \sqrt[4]{81}$$

$x = \pm 3$

27.  $x^2 - 5 = 139$

$$\frac{x^2 - 5}{+5 + 5} = \frac{139}{+5 + 5}$$

$$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{144}$$

$x = \pm 12$

28.  $\sqrt[3]{(x-7)^3} = \sqrt[3]{729}$

$$x-7 = 3^2$$

$$x-7 = 9$$

$$+7 +7$$

$x = 16$

729

$$\begin{array}{c} \textcircled{3} \wedge 243 \\ \quad \quad \quad \wedge 81 \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \wedge 9 \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \wedge 3 \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \wedge 3 \end{array}$$

29.  $\sqrt[5]{5y^4} = \sqrt[5]{80}$

$$\frac{\sqrt[5]{5y^4}}{\sqrt[5]{5}} = \frac{\sqrt[5]{80}}{\sqrt[5]{5}}$$

$$\sqrt[5]{y^4} = \sqrt[5]{16}$$

$y = \pm 2$

30.  $\sqrt[3]{(y-1)^3} = \sqrt[3]{32}$

$$y-1 = 2\sqrt[3]{4}$$

$$+1 +1$$

$y = 1 + 2\sqrt[3]{4}$

32

$$\begin{array}{c} \wedge 8 \\ \quad \quad \quad \wedge 4 \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \wedge 2 \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \wedge 2 \end{array}$$

2A

31.  $\sqrt{(x+4)^2} = \sqrt{0}$

$$x+4 = 0$$

$$-4 -4$$

$x = -4$

$\leftarrow$  \*can't do  $\pm 0$

32.  $\sqrt{-5x^2} = \sqrt{-30}$

$$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{6}$$

$x = \pm \sqrt{6}$

33.  $\sqrt[5]{(x-1)^5} = \sqrt[5]{243}$

$$x-1 = 3$$

$$+1 +1$$

$x = 4$

243

$$\begin{array}{c} \textcircled{3} \wedge 81 \\ \quad \quad \quad \wedge 9 \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \wedge 3 \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \wedge 3 \end{array}$$