

**Practice**

Form G

## Division Properties of Exponents

Simplify each expression.

1.  $\frac{5^6}{5^2}$  625

2.  $\frac{5^5}{5^2}$  125

3.  $\frac{x^8}{\frac{3}{x^8}}$   $x^4$

4.  $\frac{m^{-3}}{m^{-5}}$   $m^2$

5.  $\frac{x^6 y^9}{x^2 y^5}$   $x^4 y^4$

6.  $\frac{21m^{\frac{3}{4}}}{3m^{\frac{1}{4}}}$   $7m^{\frac{1}{2}}$

7.  $\left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^4$   $\frac{81}{625}$

8.  $\left(\frac{3x}{2y}\right)^3$   $\frac{27x^3}{8y^3}$

9.  $\left(\frac{4}{7}\right)^{-2}$   $\frac{49}{16}$

10.  $\left(-\frac{3x^4}{2y^5}\right)^{-3}$   $\frac{8y^{15}}{27x^{12}}$

11.  $\left(\frac{12p^3}{15p}\right)^{-4}$   $\frac{256p^2}{625}$

12.  $\left(\frac{ab^3}{a^5b}\right)^{-2}$   $\frac{a^8}{b^4}$

13.  $\left(\frac{3x^2y^5z^{-2}}{5xz^5}\right)^{-3}$   $\frac{125z^{21}}{27x^3y^{15}}$

14.  $\frac{(4m^2)(3n^5)}{(2m^{-3})(-mn)^3}$   $-6m^2n^2$

Explain why each expression is *not* in simplest form.

15.  $2^4 r^3$

 $2^4$  is not simplified

16.  $(3x)^2$

both factors should be squared

17.  $m^3 n^0$

 $n^0 = 1$ , so  $m^3 n^0 = m^3$ 

18.  $\frac{y^5}{y}$

 $\frac{y^5}{y}$  can be simplified to  $y^4$ 

Simplify each quotient. Write each answer in scientific notation.

19.  $\frac{3.6 \times 10^7}{1.5 \times 10^3}$   $2.4 \times 10^4$

20.  $\frac{4.5 \times 10^{-6}}{5 \times 10^{-2}}$   $9.0 \times 10^{-5}$

**Practice** (continued)

Form G

## Division Properties of Exponents

- 21. Writing** Explain how you divide expressions with numerators and denominators written in scientific notation. How do you handle the exponents? What do you do with the coefficients? Connect your response to the rules you have learned regarding the division properties of exponents.

**For expressions with numerators and denominators in scientific notation, you work separately with the numerical parts and the powers of 10. To divide powers of 10, subtract the exponents. Put the answer back into scientific notation form.**

- 22.** A computer can do a computation in  $6.8 \times 10^{-9}$  seconds. How many computations can the computer do in 5 minutes?  **$4.41 \times 10^{10}$**

- 23. Error Analysis** A student simplifies the expression  $\left(\frac{6^4}{3^2}\right)^3$  as follows:  
 $\left(\frac{6^4}{3^2}\right)^3 = [(6 \div 3)^{4-2}]^3 = (2^2)^3 = 64$ . What mistake did the student make in simplifying the expression? What is the correct simplification?

**The student should have expanded the powers inside the brackets first to follow the order of operations.  $\left(\frac{6 \cdot 6 \cdot 6 \cdot 6}{3 \cdot 3}\right)^3 = (2 \cdot 2 \cdot 6 \cdot 6)^3 = 144^3 = 2,985,984$**

- 24. Reasoning** The division property of exponents says that to simplify powers with the same base you subtract the exponents. Use examples to show why powers need to have the same base in order for this technique to work.

**Answers may vary. Sample:**

$$\frac{6^5}{6^3} = \frac{6 \cdot 6 \cdot 6 \cdot 6 \cdot 6}{6 \cdot 6 \cdot 6} = 6 \cdot 6 = 36; \frac{6^5}{6^3} = 6^{5-3} = 6^2 = 36; \text{ same}$$

$$\frac{6^5}{3^3} = \frac{6 \cdot 6 \cdot 6 \cdot 6 \cdot 6}{3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3} = 6 \cdot 6 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 = 288; \frac{6^5}{3^3} = \left(\frac{6}{3}\right)^2 = 2^2 = 4; \text{ different}$$

**same base = same answer; different bases = different answers; The division property works only with numbers with the same bases.**

- 25.** The area of a triangle is  $80x^5y^3$ . The height of the triangle is  $x^4y$ . What is the length of the base of the triangle?  **$160xy^2$**

- 26. Open-Ended** First simplify the expression  $\left(\frac{12m^5}{15m}\right)^3$  by raising each factor in the parentheses to the third power and next reducing the result. Then simplify by some other method. Explain your method. Are the results the same? Which method do you prefer?

**$\left(\frac{12m^5}{15m}\right)^3 = \frac{(12m^5)^3}{(15m)^3} = \frac{1728m^{15}}{3375m^3} = \frac{64m^{12}}{125}$ ;  $\left(\frac{12m^5}{15m}\right)^3 = \left(\frac{4m^4}{5}\right)^3 = \frac{64m^{12}}{125}$  Simplifying within the parentheses first and then raising each factor to the third power gives the same results. I prefer this method because the numbers are easier to calculate.**