

# 10

## INDICES

### 10.1 INDICES

Repeated multiplication by the same number is very common. For example,  $2.2.2.2.2$ . It is usually written as  $2^5$ .

Thus  $2.2.2.2.2 = 2^5$ , where 2 is called the **base**, 5 is called the **exponent** or **index** and  $2^5$  is the **exponential expression** (read as 2 to the 5th power or 2 to the power 5 or simply 2 power 5). This leads to :

**Definition.** If  $a$  is any real number and  $n$  is a positive integer, then

- (i)  $a^0 = 1$
- (ii)  $a^n = a . a . a \dots$  up to  $n$  factors
- (iii)  $a^{-n} = \left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^n = \frac{1}{a^n}$ ,  $a \neq 0$ ,

where  $a$  is called the **base**, 0,  $n$  or  $-n$  (as the case may be) is called the **exponent** or **index**.  $a^n$  is read as  $a$  to the  $n$ th power or  $a$  to the power  $n$ .

For example,

$$(i) \quad 3^0 = 1, \quad 3^5 = 3.3.3.3.3 = 243, \quad 3^{-5} = \frac{1}{3^5} = \frac{1}{243}.$$

$$(ii) \quad \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^0 = 1, \quad \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^3 = \frac{2}{5} \cdot \frac{2}{5} \cdot \frac{2}{5} = \frac{8}{125}, \quad \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^{-3} = \frac{1}{\left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^3} = \frac{1}{\frac{8}{125}} = \frac{125}{8}.$$

$$(iii) \quad (-2)^0 = 1, \quad (-2)^3 = (-2)(-2)(-2) = -8, \quad (-2)^{-3} = \frac{1}{(-2)^3} = \frac{1}{-8} = -\frac{1}{8}.$$

#### 10.1.1 Fractional indices (or surds)

Since  $9 = 3^2$ , 3 is a square root of 9, we write it as  $\sqrt{9}$ . Similarly, as  $27 = 3^3$ , 3 is a cube root of 27, we write it as  $(27)^{1/3}$  or  $\sqrt[3]{27}$ . This leads to :

**Definition.** If  $a$  is any real number and  $n$  is a positive integer, then  $x$  is called the  $n$ th root of  $a$  if and only if  $x^n = a$ . We write it as  $a^{1/n}$  or  $\sqrt[n]{a}$ .

When  $a$  is positive (unless mentioned otherwise),  $a^{1/n}$  or  $\sqrt[n]{a}$  will mean the positive real  $n$ th root of  $a$ .

In particular, when  $n$  is a rational number, then  $n = \frac{p}{q}$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are integers having no common factor (except 1) and  $q > 0$ . If  $a$  is any real number, then  $a^n$  is defined as

$$a^n = a^{\frac{p}{q}} = \left( a^{\frac{1}{q}} \right)^p = (a^p)^{\frac{1}{q}}.$$

Note that  $a \neq 0$  if  $n$  is negative.

### Remark

$(a^p)^{\frac{1}{q}}$  is sometimes written as  $\sqrt[q]{a^p}$ .

## 10.2 RULES FOR INDICES

If  $a$  and  $b$  are any two real numbers, and  $m$  and  $n$  are any two rational numbers, then the following results hold :

$$\star a^m \cdot a^n = a^{m+n}.$$

$$\star \frac{a^m}{a^n} = a^{m-n}, a \neq 0.$$

$$\star (a^m)^n = a^{mn}.$$

$$\star \frac{1}{a^{-n}} = a^n, a \neq 0.$$

$$\star (ab)^n = a^n b^n.$$

$$\star \left( \frac{a}{b} \right)^n = \frac{a^n}{b^n}, b \neq 0.$$

$$\star a^n = b^n, n \neq 0 \Rightarrow a = b \text{ provided } a \text{ and } b \text{ are positive.}$$

$$\star a^n = a^m \Rightarrow n = m \text{ provided } a > 0 \text{ and } a \neq 1.$$

### Note

If  $p$  and  $q$  are different positive prime integers, then  $p^m q^n = p^l q^k \Rightarrow m = l$  and  $n = k$ .

## ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES

**Example 1.** Simplify the following :

$$(i) (3x^4y^3)(18x^3y^5) \quad (ii) \frac{3x^4y^3}{18x^3y^5} \quad (iii) \left( -\frac{2x^2}{y^3} \right)^3 \quad (iv) \sqrt[3]{27^{-2}}.$$

**Solution.** (i)  $(3x^4y^3)(18x^3y^5) = 3 \cdot 18 \cdot x^4 \cdot x^3 \cdot y^3 \cdot y^5 = 54x^7y^8$ .

$$(ii) \frac{3x^4y^3}{18x^3y^5} = \frac{3}{18} \cdot \frac{x^4}{x^3} \cdot \frac{y^3}{y^5} = \frac{1}{6} \cdot x^{4-3} \cdot \frac{1}{y^{5-3}} = \frac{x}{6y^2}.$$

$$(iii) \left( -\frac{2x^2}{y^3} \right)^3 = (-2)^3 \cdot \frac{(x^2)^3}{(y^3)^3} = -8 \cdot \frac{x^6}{y^9}.$$

$$(iv) \sqrt[3]{27^{-2}} = (27^{-2})^{1/3} = (27)^{-2/3} = (3^3)^{-2/3} = 3^{3 \times (-2/3)} = 3^{-2} = \frac{1}{3^2} = \frac{1}{9}.$$

**Example 2.** Simplify :  $\left(\frac{81}{16}\right)^{-\frac{3}{4}} \times \left[\left(\frac{25}{9}\right)^{-\frac{3}{2}} \div \left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^{-3}\right]$ .

**Solution.**  $\left(\frac{81}{16}\right)^{-\frac{3}{4}} \times \left[\left(\frac{25}{9}\right)^{-\frac{3}{2}} \div \left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^{-3}\right]$

$$= \left[\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^4\right]^{-\frac{3}{4}} \times \left[\left(\frac{5}{3}\right)^2\right]^{-\frac{3}{2}} \div \left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^{-3}$$

$$= \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{4 \times \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right)} \times \left[\left(\frac{5}{3}\right)^{2 \times \left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)} \div \left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^{-3}\right]$$

$$= \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{-3} \times \left[\left(\frac{5}{3}\right)^{-3} \div \left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^{-3}\right]$$

$$= \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3 \times \left[\left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^3 \div \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^3\right] \quad \left[\because a^{-n} = \left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^n\right]$$

$$= \frac{2^3}{3^3} \times \left[\frac{3^3}{5^3} \div \frac{2^3}{5^3}\right] = \frac{2^3}{3^3} \times \frac{3^3}{5^3} \times \frac{5^3}{2^3} = 1.$$

**Example 3.** Evaluate  $\sqrt{\frac{1}{4}} + (.01)^{-1/2} - (27)^{2/3}$ . Leave your answer as a fraction.

**Solution.**  $\sqrt{\frac{1}{4}} + (.01)^{-1/2} - (27)^{2/3} = \frac{1}{2} + \left(\frac{1}{100}\right)^{-1/2} - (3^3)^{2/3}$

$$= \frac{1}{2} + (100)^{1/2} - 3^2 \quad \left[\because a^{-n} = \left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^n\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} + (10)^2 - 9$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} + 10 - 9 = \frac{1}{2} + 1 = 1\frac{1}{2}.$$

**Example 4.** Simplify  $\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^{-2} - 3(8)^{2/3}(4)^0 + \left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^{-1/2}$ .

**Solution.**  $\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^{-2} - 3(8)^{2/3}(4)^0 + \left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^{-1/2} = (4)^2 - 3 \cdot (2^3)^{2/3} \cdot 1 + \left(\frac{16}{9}\right)^{1/2}$

$$\left[\because a^{-n} = \left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^n \text{ and } a^0 = 1\right]$$

$$= 16 - 3 \times 2^2 \times 1 + \left[\left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^2\right]^{1/2}$$

$$= 16 - 3 \times 4 + \frac{4}{3} = 16 - 12 + \frac{4}{3}$$

$$= 4 + \frac{4}{3} = \frac{16}{3} = 5\frac{1}{3}.$$

**Example 5.** Simplify the following :

(i)  $\frac{5^{n+2} - 6 \cdot 5^{n+1}}{13 \cdot 5^n - 2 \cdot 5^{n+1}}$

(ii)  $\left(\frac{x^m}{x^n}\right)^{m+n} \left(\frac{x^n}{x^l}\right)^{n+l} \left(\frac{x^l}{x^m}\right)^{l+m}$

(iii)  $\left(x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{-\frac{1}{3}}\right) \left(x^{\frac{2}{3}} - 1 + x^{-\frac{2}{3}}\right)$ .

**Solution.** (i) 
$$\frac{5^{n+2} - 6 \cdot 5^{n+1}}{13 \cdot 5^n - 2 \cdot 5^{n+1}} = \frac{5^n \cdot 5^2 - 6 \cdot 5^n \cdot 5^1}{13 \cdot 5^n - 2 \cdot 5^1 \cdot 5^n}$$

$$= \frac{5^n(5^2 - 6 \cdot 5)}{5^n(13 - 2 \cdot 5)} = \frac{25 - 30}{13 - 10} = \frac{-5}{3} = -\frac{5}{3}.$$

(ii) 
$$\left(\frac{x^m}{x^n}\right)^{m+n} \left(\frac{x^n}{x^l}\right)^{n+l} \left(\frac{x^l}{x^m}\right)^{l+m}$$

$$= (x^{m-n})^{m+n} \cdot (x^{n-l})^{n+l} \cdot (x^{l-m})^{l+m}$$

$$= x^{m^2-n^2} \cdot x^{n^2-l^2} \cdot x^{l^2-m^2}$$

$$= x^{m^2-n^2+n^2-l^2+l^2-m^2} = x^0 = 1.$$

(iii) 
$$\left(x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{-\frac{1}{3}}\right) \left(x^{\frac{2}{3}} - 1 + x^{-\frac{2}{3}}\right) = x^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot x^{\frac{2}{3}} - x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot x^{-\frac{2}{3}} + x^{-\frac{1}{3}} \cdot x^{\frac{2}{3}} - x^{-\frac{1}{3}} + x^{-\frac{1}{3}} \cdot x^{-\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$= x^1 - x^{\frac{1}{3}} + x^{-\frac{1}{3}} + x^{\frac{1}{3}} - x^{-\frac{1}{3}} + x^{-1}$$

$$= x + x^{-1} = x + \frac{1}{x}.$$

**Example 6.** If  $a = b^{2x}$ ,  $b = c^{2y}$  and  $c = a^{2z}$ , prove that  $xyz = \frac{1}{8}$ .

**Solution.** Given  $a = b^{2x}$  ... (i)  $b = c^{2y}$  ... (ii)  $c = a^{2z}$  ... (iii)

Substituting the value of  $b$  from (ii) in (i), we get

$$a = (c^{2y})^{2x} = c^{4xy} \quad \dots (iv)$$

Substituting the value of  $c$  from (iii) in (iv), we get

$$a = (a^{2z})^{4xy} = a^{8xyz}$$

$$\Rightarrow a^1 = a^{8xyz} \Rightarrow 1 = 8xyz \quad (\text{Assume } a > 0, a \neq 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow xyz = \frac{1}{8}.$$

**Example 7.** If  $a^x = b^y = c^z$  and  $b^2 = ac$ , prove that  $y = \frac{2xz}{z+x}$ .

**Solution.** Let  $a^x = b^y = c^z = k$  (say), then

$$a = k^{\frac{1}{x}}, b = k^{\frac{1}{y}} \text{ and } c = k^{\frac{1}{z}}.$$

Given  $b^2 = ac \Rightarrow \left(k^{\frac{1}{y}}\right)^2 = k^{\frac{1}{x}} \cdot k^{\frac{1}{z}}$

$$\Rightarrow k^{\frac{2}{y}} = k^{\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{z}} \Rightarrow \frac{2}{y} = \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{z}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2}{y} = \frac{z+x}{xz} \Rightarrow y = \frac{2xz}{z+x}.$$

**Example 8.** If  $abc = 1$ , show that

$$\frac{1}{1+a+b^{-1}} + \frac{1}{1+b+c^{-1}} + \frac{1}{1+c+a^{-1}} = 1.$$

**Solution.** 
$$\frac{1}{1+a+b^{-1}} + \frac{1}{1+b+c^{-1}} + \frac{1}{1+c+a^{-1}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1+a+\frac{1}{b}} + \frac{1}{1+b+\frac{1}{c}} + \frac{1}{1+c+\frac{1}{a}}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{b}{b+ab+1} + \frac{1}{1+b+ab} + \frac{1}{1+\frac{1}{ab}+\frac{1}{a}} \quad \left( \because abc = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{c} = ab \text{ and } c = \frac{1}{ab} \right) \\
 &= \frac{b}{1+b+ab} + \frac{1}{1+b+ab} + \frac{ab}{ab+1+b} \\
 &= \frac{b+1+ab}{1+b+ab} = 1.
 \end{aligned}$$

**Example 9.** If  $x = \sqrt[3]{28}$  and  $y = \sqrt[3]{27}$ , find the value of  $x + y - \frac{1}{x^2 + xy + y^2}$ .

**Solution.**  $x + y - \frac{1}{x^2 + xy + y^2} = x + y - \frac{x - y}{(x - y)(x^2 + xy + y^2)}$  (Note this step)

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= x + y - \frac{x - y}{x^3 - y^3} \\
 &= x + y - \frac{x - y}{((28)^{1/3})^3 - ((27)^{1/3})^3} \\
 &= x + y - \frac{x - y}{28 - 27} = x + y - \frac{x - y}{1} \\
 &= x + y - (x - y) = 2y \\
 &= 2 \times \sqrt[3]{27} = 2 \times (27)^{1/3} \\
 &= 2 \times (3^3)^{\frac{1}{3}} = 2 \times 3^1 = 6.
 \end{aligned}$$

**Example 10.** Given  $1176 = 2^p \cdot 3^q \cdot 7^r$ , find

(i) the numerical values of  $p$ ,  $q$  and  $r$  (ii) the value of  $2^p \cdot 3^q \cdot 7^{-r}$  as a fraction.

**Solution.** (i) Given  $1176 = 2^p \cdot 3^q \cdot 7^r$

$$\Rightarrow 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 3 \times 7 \times 7 = 2^p \cdot 3^q \cdot 7^r$$

$$\Rightarrow 2^3 \cdot 3^1 \cdot 7^2 = 2^p \cdot 3^q \cdot 7^r$$

$$\Rightarrow p = 3, q = 1 \text{ and } r = 2.$$

(See note page 150)

$$(ii) 2^p \cdot 3^q \cdot 7^{-r} = 2^3 \cdot 3^1 \cdot 7^{-2} = \frac{8 \times 3}{7^2} = \frac{24}{49}.$$

**Example 11.** Solve the following equations for  $x$  :

$$(i) 4^{2x} = \frac{1}{32} \quad (ii) \sqrt{\left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^{1-2x}} = 4 \frac{17}{27}.$$

**Solution.** (i) Given  $4^{2x} = \frac{1}{32} \Rightarrow (2^2)^{2x} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^5$

$$\Rightarrow 2^{4x} = 2^{-5}$$

$$\Rightarrow 4x = -5 \Rightarrow x = -\frac{5}{4}.$$

$$\left[ \because \left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^n = a^{-n} \right]$$

(ii) Given  $\sqrt{\left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^{1-2x}} = 4 \frac{17}{27} \Rightarrow \left(\left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^{1-2x}\right)^{1/2} = \frac{125}{27}$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^{\frac{1-2x}{2}} = \left(\frac{5}{3}\right)^3 \Rightarrow \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^{\frac{1-2x}{2}} = \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^{-3}$$

$$\left[ \because \left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^n = a^{-n} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1-2x}{2} = -3 \Rightarrow 1-2x = -6$$

$$\Rightarrow -2x = -6 - 1 \Rightarrow -2x = -7 \Rightarrow x = \frac{7}{2}.$$

**Example 12.** Solve the following equations for  $x$  :

$$(i) \sqrt{\left(8^0 + \frac{2}{3}\right)} = (0.6)^{2-3x}$$

$$(ii) 2^3(5^0 + 3^{2x}) = 8\frac{8}{27}.$$

**Solution.** (i) Given  $\sqrt{\left(8^0 + \frac{2}{3}\right)} = (0.6)^{2-3x}$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{\left(1 + \frac{2}{3}\right)} = \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^{2-3x} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{5}{3}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^{2-3x}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^{2-3x}$$

$$\left[ \because \left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^n = a^{-n} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{1}{2} = 2 - 3x$$

$$\Rightarrow 3x = 2 + \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow 3x = \frac{5}{2} \Rightarrow x = \frac{5}{6}.$$

(ii) Given  $2^3(5^0 + 3^{2x}) = 8\frac{8}{27}$

$$\Rightarrow 8(1 + 3^{2x}) = 8 + \frac{8}{27} \Rightarrow 8 + 8 \times 3^{2x} = 8 + \frac{8}{27}$$

$$\Rightarrow 8 \times 3^{2x} = \frac{8}{27} \Rightarrow 3^{2x} = \frac{1}{27}$$

$$\Rightarrow 3^{2x} = \frac{1}{3^3} \Rightarrow 3^{2x} = 3^{-3}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x = -3 \Rightarrow x = -\frac{3}{2}.$$

**Example 13.** If  $\left(\frac{p^{-1}q^2}{p^3q^{-2}}\right)^{1/3} + \left(\frac{p^6q^{-3}}{p^{-2}q^3}\right)^{1/2} = p^a q^b$ , prove that  $a + b + 1 = 0$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are different positive primes.

**Solution.**  $\left(\frac{p^{-1}q^2}{p^3q^{-2}}\right)^{1/3} = (p^{-1-3}q^{2-(-2)})^{1/3} = (p^{-4}q^4)^{1/3} = p^{-\frac{4}{3}}q^{\frac{4}{3}},$

$$\left(\frac{p^6q^{-3}}{p^{-2}q^3}\right)^{1/2} = (p^{6-(-2)}q^{-3-3})^{1/2} = (p^8q^{-6})^{1/2} = p^4q^{-3}.$$

$$\therefore \left(\frac{p^{-1}q^2}{p^3q^{-2}}\right)^{1/3} + \left(\frac{p^6q^{-3}}{p^{-2}q^3}\right)^{1/2} = p^a q^b$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{p^{-\frac{4}{3}}q^{\frac{4}{3}}}{p^4q^{-3}} \Rightarrow p^a q^b \Rightarrow p^{-\frac{4}{3}-4}q^{\frac{4}{3}-(-3)} = p^a q^b$$

$$\Rightarrow p^{-\frac{16}{3}}q^{\frac{13}{3}} = p^a q^b$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{16}{3} = a \text{ and } \frac{13}{3} = b$$

( $\because p, q$  are different positive primes)

$$\therefore a + b + 1 = -\frac{16}{3} + \frac{13}{3} + 1 = \frac{-16+13+3}{3} = 0.$$

**Example 14.** If  $5^{2x-1} = 25^{x-1} + 100$ , find the value of  $3^{1+x}$ .

**Solution.** Given  $5^{2x-1} = 25^{x-1} + 100$

$$\Rightarrow 5^{2x-1} = (5^2)^{x-1} + 100 \Rightarrow 5^{2x-1} - 5^{2x-2} = 100$$

$$\Rightarrow 5^{2x-2} \cdot 5^1 - 5^{2x-2} = 100 \Rightarrow 5^{2x-2} (5 - 1) = 100$$

$$\Rightarrow 5^{2x-2} \times 4 = 100 \Rightarrow 5^{2x-2} = 25$$

$$\Rightarrow 5^{2x-2} = 5^2 \Rightarrow 2x - 2 = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x = 4 \Rightarrow x = 2.$$

$$\therefore 3^{1+x} = 3^{1+2} = 3^3 = 27.$$

**Example 15.** Determine  $(8x)^x$  if  $9^{x+2} = 240 + 9^x$ .

**Solution.** Given  $9^{x+2} = 240 + 9^x$

$$\Rightarrow 9^x \cdot 9^2 - 9^x = 240 \Rightarrow (9^2 - 1) 9^x = 240$$

$$\Rightarrow (81 - 1) 9^x = 240 \Rightarrow 80 \times (3^2)^x = 240$$

$$\Rightarrow 3^{2x} = \frac{240}{80} = 3 = 3^1 \Rightarrow 2x = 1 \Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$\therefore (8x)^x = \left(8 \times \frac{1}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = 4^{\frac{1}{2}} = (2^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} = 2^{2 \times \frac{1}{2}} = 2^1 = 2.$$

**Example 16.** Solve for  $x$  and  $y$  :

$$\left(\sqrt{32}\right)^x \div 2^{y+1} = 1, \quad 16^{4-\frac{x}{2}} - 8^y = 0.$$

**Solution.** Given  $\left(\sqrt{32}\right)^x \div 2^{y+1} = 1$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\left(2^5\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)^x \div 2^{y+1} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\left(2^{\frac{5}{2}}\right)^x}{2^{y+1}} = 1 \Rightarrow 2^{\frac{5x}{2}-y-1} = 2^0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{5x}{2} - y - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow 5x - 2y - 2 = 0 \quad \dots(i)$$

Also  $16^{4-\frac{x}{2}} - 8^y = 0 \Rightarrow (2^4)^{4-\frac{x}{2}} = (2^3)^y$

$$\Rightarrow 2^{16-2x} = 2^{3y} \Rightarrow 16 - 2x = 3y$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x + 3y - 16 = 0 \quad \dots(ii)$$

Multiplying (i) by 3 and (ii) by 2, we get

$$15x - 6y - 6 = 0 \quad \dots(iii)$$

$$\text{and } 4x + 6y - 32 = 0 \quad \dots(iv)$$

Adding (iii) and (iv), we get

$$19x - 38 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 2.$$

Substituting  $x = 2$  in (ii), we get

$$2 \cdot 2 + 3y - 16 = 0 \Rightarrow 3y = 12 \Rightarrow y = 4.$$

Hence the solution is  $x = 2, y = 4$ .

## Exercise 10

Simplify the following (1 to 20) :

1. (i)  $(ab^2)^5$

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

2. (i)  $(2a^{-3}b^2)^3$

(ii)  $\frac{a^{-1} + b^{-1}}{(ab)^{-1}}$

3. (i)  $\frac{x^{-1}y^{-1}}{x^{-1} + y^{-1}}$

(ii)  $\frac{(4 \times 10^7)(6 \times 10^{-5})}{8 \times 10^{10}}$

4. (i)  $\frac{3a}{b^{-1}} + \frac{2b}{a^{-1}}$

(ii)  $5^0 \times 4^{-1} + 8^{1/3}$

5. (i)  $\left(\frac{8}{125}\right)^{-\frac{1}{3}}$

(ii)  $(0.027)^{\frac{1}{3}}$

6. (i)  $\left(-\frac{1}{27}\right)^{-\frac{2}{3}}$

(ii)  $(64)^{-\frac{2}{3}} \div 9^{-\frac{3}{2}}$

7. (i)  $\frac{(27)^{\frac{2n}{3}} \times (8)^{-\frac{n}{6}}}{(18)^{-\frac{n}{2}}}$

(ii)  $\frac{5 \cdot (25)^{n+1} - 25 \cdot (5)^{2n}}{5 \cdot (5)^{2n+3} - (25)^{n+1}}$

8. (i)  $\left[8^{-\frac{4}{3}} \div 2^{-2}\right]^{1/2}$

(ii)  $\left(\frac{27}{8}\right)^{2/3} - \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^{-2} + 5^0$

9. (i)  $(3x^2)^{-3} \times (x^9)^{2/3}$

(ii)  $(8x^4)^{1/3} \div x^{1/3}$

10. (i)  $(3^2)^0 + 3^{-4} \times 3^6 + \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{-2}$

(ii)  $9^{5/2} - 3 \cdot (5)^0 - \left(\frac{1}{81}\right)^{-1/2}$

11. (i)  $16^{3/4} + 2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{-1} (3)^0$

(ii)  $(81)^{3/4} - \left(\frac{1}{32}\right)^{-2/5} + (8)^{1/3} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{-1} (2)^0$

12. (i)  $\left(\frac{64}{125}\right)^{-\frac{2}{3}} \div \frac{1}{\left(\frac{256}{625}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}}} + \left(\frac{\sqrt{25}}{\sqrt[3]{64}}\right)^0$

(ii)  $\frac{5^{n+3} - 6 \times 5^{n+1}}{9 \times 5^n - 2^2 \times 5^n}$

13. (i)  $\left[(64)^{\frac{2}{3}} 2^{-2} \div 8^0\right]^{-1/2}$

(ii)  $3^n \times 9^{n+1} \div (3^{n-1} \times 9^{n-1})$

14. (i)  $\frac{\sqrt{2^2} \times \sqrt[4]{256}}{\sqrt[3]{64}} - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{-2}$

(ii)  $\frac{3^{-\frac{6}{7}} \times 4^{-\frac{3}{7}} \times 9^{\frac{3}{7}} \times 2^{\frac{6}{7}}}{2^2 + 2^0 + 2^{-2}}$

15. (i)  $\frac{(32)^{\frac{2}{5}} \times (4)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \times (8)^{\frac{1}{3}}}{2^{-2} \div (64)^{-1/3}}$

(ii)  $\frac{5^{2(x+6)} \times (25)^{-7+2x}}{(125)^{2x}}$



$$16. (i) \frac{7^{2n+3} - (49)^{n+2}}{((343)^{n+1})^{2/3}}$$

$$(ii) (27)^{4/3} + (32)^{0.8} + (0.8)^{-1}.$$

$$17. (i) (\sqrt{32} - \sqrt{5})^{1/3} (\sqrt{32} + \sqrt{5})^{1/3}$$

$$(ii) \left(x^{1/3} - x^{-1/3}\right) \left(x^{2/3} + 1 + x^{-2/3}\right).$$

$$18. (i) \left(\frac{x^m}{x^n}\right)^l \cdot \left(\frac{x^n}{x^l}\right)^m \cdot \left(\frac{x^l}{x^m}\right)^n$$

$$(ii) \left(\frac{x^{a+b}}{x^c}\right)^{a-b} \cdot \left(\frac{x^{b+c}}{x^a}\right)^{b-c} \cdot \left(\frac{x^{c+a}}{x^b}\right)^{c-a}.$$

$$19. (i) \sqrt[lm]{\frac{x^l}{x^m}} \cdot \sqrt{mn}{\frac{x^m}{x^n}} \cdot \sqrt{nl}{\frac{x^n}{x^l}}$$

$$(ii) \left(\frac{x^a}{x^b}\right)^{a^2+ab+b^2} \cdot \left(\frac{x^b}{x^c}\right)^{b^2+bc+c^2} \cdot \left(\frac{x^c}{x^a}\right)^{c^2+ac+a^2}$$

$$(iii) \left(\frac{x^a}{x^{-b}}\right)^{a^2-ab+b^2} \cdot \left(\frac{x^b}{x^{-c}}\right)^{b^2-bc+c^2} \cdot \left(\frac{x^c}{x^{-a}}\right)^{c^2-ca+a^2}.$$

$$20. (i) (a^{-1} + b^{-1}) \div (a^{-2} - b^{-2})$$

$$(ii) \frac{1}{1+a^{m-n}} + \frac{1}{1+a^{n-m}}.$$

21. Prove the following :

$$(i) (a+b)^{-1} (a^{-1} + b^{-1}) = \frac{1}{ab}$$

$$(ii) \frac{x+y+z}{x^{-1}y^{-1} + y^{-1}z^{-1} + z^{-1}x^{-1}} = xyz.$$

22. If  $a = c^z$ ,  $b = a^x$  and  $c = b^y$ , prove that  $xyz = 1$ .

23. If  $a = xy^{p-1}$ ,  $b = xy^{q-1}$  and  $c = xy^{r-1}$ , prove that

$$a^{q-r} \cdot b^{r-p} \cdot c^{p-q} = 1.$$

24. If  $2^x = 3^y = 6^{-z}$ , prove that  $\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{z} = 0$ .

25. If  $2^x = 3^y = 12^z$ , prove that  $x = \frac{2yz}{y-z}$ .

### Hint

Let  $2^x = 3^y = 12^z = k$ , then  $2 = k^{1/x}$ ,  $3 = k^{1/y}$  and  $12 = k^{1/z}$ .

$$\text{Now } 12 = 2^2 \times 3 \Rightarrow k^{1/z} = \left(k^{1/x}\right)^2 \times k^{1/y}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{z} = \frac{2}{x} + \frac{1}{y} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{z} - \frac{1}{y} = \frac{2}{x}.$$

26. Simplify and express with positive exponents :

$$(3x^2)^0, (xy)^{-2}, (-27a^9)^{2/3}.$$

27. If  $a = 3$  and  $b = -2$ , find the values of :

$$(i) a^a + b^b$$

$$(ii) a^b + b^a.$$

28. If  $x = 10^3 \times 0.0099$ ,  $y = 10^{-2} \times 110$ , find the value of  $\sqrt{\frac{x}{y}}$ .

29. Evaluate  $x^{1/2} \cdot y^{-1} \cdot z^{2/3}$  when  $x = 9$ ,  $y = 2$  and  $z = 8$ .
30. If  $x^4 y^2 z^3 = 49392$ , find the values of  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$ , where  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  are different positive primes.
31. If  $\sqrt[3]{a^6 b^{-4}} = a^x \cdot b^{2y}$ , find  $x$  and  $y$ , where  $a$ ,  $b$  are different positive primes.
32. If  $(p + q)^{-1} (p^{-1} + q^{-1}) = p^a q^b$ , prove that  $a + b + 2 = 0$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are different positive primes.

33. If  $\left(\frac{p^{-1} q^2}{p^2 q^{-4}}\right)^7 + \left(\frac{p^3 q^{-5}}{p^{-2} q^3}\right)^{-5} = p^x q^y$ , find  $x + y$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are different positive primes.

34. Solve the following equations for  $x$  :

(i)  $5^{2x+3} = 1$

(ii)  $(13)^{\sqrt{x}} = 4^4 - 3^4 - 6$

(iii)  $\left(\sqrt{\frac{3}{5}}\right)^{x+1} = \frac{125}{27}$

(iv)  $(\sqrt[3]{4})^{2x+\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{32}$

35. Solve the following equations for  $x$  :

(i)  $\sqrt{\frac{p}{q}} = \left(\frac{q}{p}\right)^{1-2x}$

(ii)  $4^{x-1} \times (0.5)^{3-2x} = \left(\frac{1}{8}\right)^x$

36. If  $5^{3x} = 125$  and  $(10)^y = 0.001$ , find  $x$  and  $y$ .

37. If  $\frac{9^n \cdot 3^2 \cdot 3^n - (27)^n}{3^{3m} \cdot 2^3} = \frac{1}{27}$ , prove that  $m = 1 + n$ .

38. If  $3^{4x} = (81)^{-1}$  and  $(10)^{1/y} = 0.0001$ , find the value of  $2^{-x} \cdot (16)^y$ .

39. If  $3^{x+1} = 9^{x-2}$ , find the value of  $2^{1+x}$ .

40. Solve the following equations :

(i)  $3(2^x + 1) - 2^{x+2} + 5 = 0$

(ii)  $3^x = 9 \cdot 3^y, \quad 8 \cdot 2^y = 4^x$

## CHAPTER TEST

1. If  $2^x \cdot 3^y \cdot 5^z = 2160$  find, the values of  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$ . Hence compute the value of  $3^x \cdot 2^{-y} \cdot 5^{-z}$ .
2. If  $x = 2$  and  $y = -3$ , find the values of (i)  $x^x + y^y$  (ii)  $x^y + y^x$ .
3. If  $p = x^{m+n} \cdot y^l$ ,  $q = x^{n+l} \cdot y^m$  and  $r = x^{l+m} \cdot y^n$ , prove that  $p^{m-n} \cdot q^{n-l} \cdot r^{l-m} = 1$ .
4. If  $x = a^{m+n}$ ,  $y = a^{n+l}$  and  $z = a^{l+m}$ , prove that  $x^m y^n z^l = x^n y^l z^m$ .
5. Show that  $\frac{\left(p + \frac{1}{q}\right)^m \times \left(p - \frac{1}{q}\right)^n}{\left(q + \frac{1}{p}\right)^m \times \left(q - \frac{1}{p}\right)^n} = \left(\frac{p}{q}\right)^{m+n}$ .
6. Show that  $\frac{a^{-1}}{a^{-1} + b^{-1}} + \frac{a^{-1}}{a^{-1} - b^{-1}} = \frac{2b^2}{b^2 - a^2}$ .
7. Show that  $\frac{1}{1 + a^{y-x} + a^{z-x}} + \frac{1}{1 + a^{z-y} + a^{x-y}} + \frac{1}{1 + a^{x-z} + a^{y-z}} = 1$ .

## Hint

$$\frac{1}{1 + a^{y-x} + a^{z-x}} = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{a^y}{a^x} + \frac{a^z}{a^x}} = \frac{a^x}{a^x + a^y + a^z} \text{ etc.}$$

8. If  $3^x = 5^y = (75)^z$ , show that  $z = \frac{xy}{2x + y}$ .
9. Solve the following equations :
  - (i)  $3^{x+1} = 27 \cdot 3^4$
  - (ii)  $4^{2x} = \left(\sqrt[3]{16}\right)^{-\frac{6}{y}} = (\sqrt{8})^2$
  - (iii)  $3^{x-1} \times 5^{2y-3} = 225$
  - (iv)  $8^{x+1} = 16^{y+2}$ ,  $\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{3+x} = \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^{3y}$ .