

1. Explain what *negative* powers mean. Use examples to get your point across. Your explanation should be usable by someone who doesn't have a calculator.

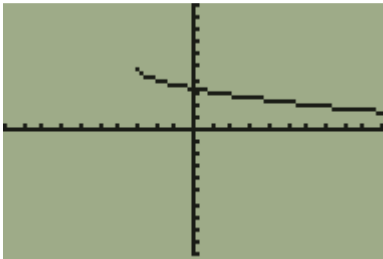
A negative power means you have to find the reciprocal of the number before (or after) raising it to any other power. For example, $4^{-2} = \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{16}$ and $\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{-2} = \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{9}{4}$

2. Explain what *fractional* powers mean (such as $\frac{1}{5}$ and $\frac{3}{2}$). Give examples to clearly illustrate your understanding. Again, your explanation should be usable by someone who doesn't have a calculator.

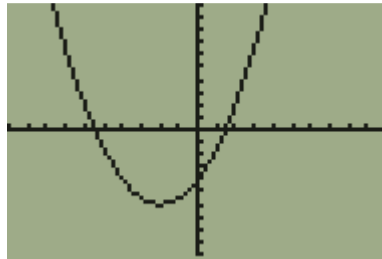
A fractional power means that you have to both raise a value to a power (the numerator) and take a root of the number (denominator). For example, $16^{\frac{3}{4}} = (\sqrt[4]{16})^3 = 2^3 = 8$. The 3 in the exponent is a power and the 4 is a root.

3. Graph each equation.

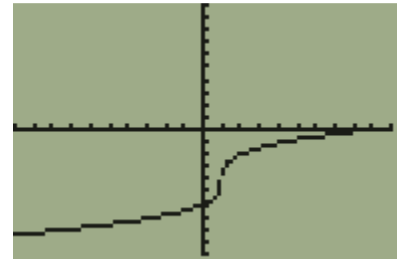
a) $y = -\sqrt{x+3} + 5$



b) $y = \frac{1}{2}(x+2)^2 - 6$



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



- 4.

Jake was in a hurry when he did these problems. Did he make any mistakes? If so, find them and clearly show all corrections.

a)

$$-3\sqrt{x+4} - 9 = 0$$

$$-3\sqrt{x+4} = 9$$

$$\sqrt{x+4} = -3$$

$$x+4 = 9$$

$$x = 5$$

You can list his mistake as one of two things:

- 1) He should have checked his answer to make sure it works. $-3\sqrt{5+4} - 9 = -18 \neq 0$.
- 2) In step three ($\sqrt{x+4} = -3$), when working with functions, the answer to a square root is always positive. This means at step 3, you can stop and say, "This is impossible which means there is no solution."

b)

$$(2x-7)^{\frac{3}{2}} - 17 = 10$$

$$(2x-7)^{\frac{3}{2}} = 27$$

$$\left((2x-7)^{\frac{3}{2}}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}} = (27)^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$2x-7 = 18$$

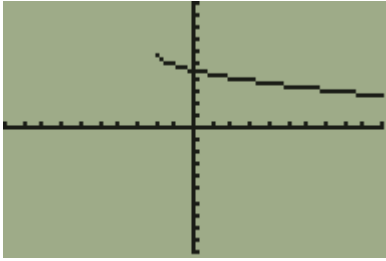
$$2x = 25$$

$$x = \frac{25}{2}$$

The mistake is from line 3 to line 4 above.

$27^{\frac{2}{3}} = 9 \neq 18$. The correct answer is $x = 8$.

5. Sketch a graph of a radical function with a domain of $-2 \leq x$ and a range of $6 \geq y$. Write the equation of your graph.



The most common equation is $y = -\sqrt{x+2} + 6$. It is *VERY* similar to 3a.

6. Ashley was tired and distracted when she did this problem. Did she make any mistakes? If so, find them and clearly show all corrections.

$$\frac{(4xy^5)^2 \cdot x^3y^{-4}}{(2x^{-2}y)^3}$$

$$\frac{8x^2y^{10} \cdot x^3y^{-4}}{2x^{-6}y^3}$$

$$\frac{8x^5y^6}{2x^{-6}y^3}$$

$$\frac{4y^3}{x}$$

Ashley made two mistakes:

1) From line 1 to line 2, $4^2 = 16$ (not 8) AND $2^3 = 8$ (not 2).

2) From line 3 to line 4, $\frac{x^5}{x^{-6}} = x^{11}$ not $\frac{1}{x}$.

The correct answer should be $2x^{11}y^3$.

7. Two Jesse's were working together. They each did the following problem, but got different answers. Who is correct? How do you know?

a)

$$\left(27x^{\frac{3}{2}}y^{-\frac{1}{2}}\right)^{-\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$-18x^{-1}y^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$\frac{-18y^{\frac{1}{3}}}{x}$$

b)

$$\left(27x^{\frac{3}{2}}y^{-\frac{1}{2}}\right)^{-\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$81x^{-1}y^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$\frac{81y^{\frac{1}{3}}}{x}$$

They are both wrong because $27^{-\frac{2}{3}} = \frac{1}{9}$ (not -18 or 81).

8. Tanner would like to know how to simplify radical expressions. Describe how to simplify the following so that Tanner can clearly follow your directions.

a) $-2\sqrt{8x^5y^{10}} = -4x^2y^5\sqrt{2x}$

b) $4^4\sqrt[4]{243x^{11}y^{25}} = 12x^2y^6\sqrt[3]{3x^3y}$

There are several ways to simplify these. The most basic (albeit not always the best) method involves a factor tree. For more details, consult your book, notes, or the internet.