

Exercise 1.6

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1. Find:

(i) $64^{1/2}$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} 64^{1/2} &= (8 \times 8)^{1/2} \\ &= (8^2)^{1/2} \\ &= 8^1 \quad (2 \times 1/2 = 2/2 = 1) \\ &= 8 \end{aligned}$$

(ii) $32^{1/5}$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} 32^{1/5} &= (2^5)^{1/5} \\ &= (2^5)^{1/5} \\ &= 2^1 \quad [5 \times 1/5 = 1] \\ &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

(iii) $125^{1/3}$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} (125)^{1/3} &= (5 \times 5 \times 5)^{1/3} \\ &= (5^3)^{1/3} \\ &= 5^1 \quad (3 \times 1/3 = 3/3 = 1) \\ &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

2. Find:

(i) $9^{3/2}$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} 9^{3/2} &= (3 \times 3)^{3/2} \\ &= (3^2)^{3/2} \\ &= 3^3 \quad [2 \times 3/2 = 3] \\ &= 27 \end{aligned}$$

(ii) $32^{2/5}$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} 32^{2/5} &= (2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2)^{2/5} \\ &= (2^5)^{2/5} \\ &= 2^2 \quad [5 \times 2/5 = 2] \\ &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

(iii) $16^{3/4}$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} 16^{3/4} &= (2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2)^{3/4} \\ &= (2^4)^{3/4} \\ &= 2^3 \quad [4 \times 3/4 = 3] \end{aligned}$$

$$= 8$$

(iv) $125^{-1/3}$

$$\begin{aligned} 125^{-1/3} &= (5 \times 5 \times 5)^{-1/3} \\ &= (5^3)^{-1/3} \\ &= 5^{-1} \quad [3 \times -1/3 = -1] \\ &= 1/5 \end{aligned}$$

3. Simplify:

(i) $2^{2/3} \times 2^{1/5}$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{2/3} \times 2^{1/5} &= 2^{(2/3)+(1/5)} \quad [\text{Since, } a^m \times a^n = a^{m+n} \text{ Laws of exponents}] \\ &= 2^{13/15} \quad [2/3 + 1/5 = (2 \times 5 + 3 \times 1)/(3 \times 5) = 13/15] \end{aligned}$$

(ii) $(1/3^3)^7$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} (1/3^3)^7 &= (3^{-3})^7 \quad [\text{Since, } (a^m)^n = a^{m \times n} \text{ Laws of exponents}] \\ &= 3^{-27} \end{aligned}$$

(iii) $11^{1/2}/11^{1/4}$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} 11^{1/2}/11^{1/4} &= 11^{(1/2)-(1/4)} \\ &= 11^{1/4} \quad [(1/2) - (1/4) = (1 \times 4 - 2 \times 1)/(2 \times 4) = 4 - 2)/8 = 2/8 = 1/4] \end{aligned}$$

(iv) $7^{1/2} \times 8^{1/2}$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} 7^{1/2} \times 8^{1/2} &= (7 \times 8)^{1/2} \quad [\text{Since, } (a^m \times b^m) = (a \times b)^m \text{ Laws of exponents}] \\ &= 56^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$