

Notes: Solving Equations with Rational Exponents

Do Now: **ALGEBRAICALLY** solve each of the following equations.

$$1) \sqrt{2x+3} = 8$$

$$2x+3=64$$

-3 -3

$$\frac{2x}{2} = \frac{61}{2}$$

$$x = 30.5$$

Check

$$\sqrt{2(30.5)+3} = 8$$

$$\sqrt{64} = 8$$

$$\sqrt{8} = 8$$

$$2) [(2x+3)^{1/2}]^2 = (8)^2$$

$$2x+3=64$$

-3 -3

$$\frac{2x}{2} = \frac{61}{2}$$

$$x = 30.5$$

Check:

$$[(2(30.5)+3)^{1/2}]^2 = 8^2$$

$$\sqrt{8} = 8$$

$$3) [(2x+3)^{1/3}]^3 = (8)^3$$

$$2x+3=512$$

-3 -3

$$\frac{2x}{2} = \frac{509}{2}$$

$$x = 254.5$$

Check

$$[(2(254.5)+3)^{1/3}]^3 = 8^3$$

$$\sqrt[3]{8} = 8$$

$$4) [(2x+3)^{3/2}]^{2/3} = (8)^{2/3}$$

$$2x+3=4$$

-3 -3

$$\frac{2x}{2} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$x = 0.5$$

Check:

$$[(2(0.5)+3)^{3/2}]^{2/3} = 8^{2/3}$$

$$8 = 8 \checkmark$$

What Should I Be Able to Do?

- I can solve equations with rational exponents.

$$1) 3x^{5/4} - 1 = 95$$

+1 +1

$$\frac{3x^{5/4}}{3} = \frac{96}{3}$$

$$(x^{5/4})^{4/5} = (32)^{4/5}$$

$$x = 16$$

Check:

$$3(16)^{5/4} - 1 = 95$$

$$\sqrt[4]{95} = 95$$

$$2) -2(x+10)^{9/5} = 12$$

-2 -2

$$[(x+10)^{9/5}]^{5/9} = (-6)^{5/9}$$

$$x+10 = (-6)^{5/9}$$

-10 -10

$$x = (-6)^{5/9} - 10$$

Check:

$$-2[(-6)^{5/9} - 10]^{9/5} = 12$$

$$\sqrt[5]{12} = 12$$

Checkpoint:

Solve each of the following equations.

1) $x^{1/7} + 3 = 2$

$$(x^{1/7})^{-3} = (-1)^{-3}$$

$$x = -1$$

Check:

$$(-1)^{1/7} + 3 = 2$$

$$\sqrt{2} = 2$$

2) $(x+2)^{3/2} = (-64)^{2/3}$

$$x+2 = 16$$

$$x = 14$$

$$\emptyset$$

Check

$$(14+2)^{3/2} \neq -64$$

$$64 \neq -64$$

3) $\left(\frac{1}{5x+7}\right)^{-3/7} = 15$

$$\left[(5x+7)^{3/7}\right]^{7/3} = (15)^{7/3}$$

$$5x+7 = 15^{7/3}$$

$$\frac{5x}{5} = \frac{15^{7/3} - 7}{5}$$

$$x = \frac{15^{7/3} - 7}{5}$$

check:

$$\left[\frac{1}{5\left(\frac{15^{7/3}-7}{5}\right)+7}\right]^{3/7} = 15$$

4) $\frac{(x-1)^{5/2}}{3} = 7$

$$\left[(x-1)^{5/2}\right]^{2/5} = (21)^{2/5}$$

$$x-1 = (21)^{2/5}$$

$$x = (21)^{2/5} + 1$$

Check:

$$\frac{(21^{2/5} + 1 - 1)^{5/2}}{3} = 7$$

$$7 = 7 \checkmark$$

5) Solve for a in the following equation:

$$(a+b)^{c/d} + f = g$$

$$\left[(a+b)^{c/d}\right]^{d/c} = (g-f)^{d/c}$$

$$a+b = (g-f)^{d/c}$$

$$a = (g-f)^{d/c} - b$$

Success Criteria

- I can solve equations with rational and negative exponents.

1) Solve each of the following equation.

$$\begin{aligned} [(x-5)^{3/5}] &= (27)^{5/3} \\ x-5 &= 243 \\ +5 & \quad +5 \\ \boxed{x=248} \end{aligned}$$

Check:

$$\begin{aligned} (248-5)^{3/5} &= 27 \\ 27 &= 27 \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

Explain what your first step accomplishes and how it helps solve the equation.

When I raise both sides of the equation to the $\frac{5}{3}$ power to get $x-5$ alone on the left side of the equation.

Solve each of the following equations.

2) $\frac{1}{4}(2x-2)^{5/2} = 60.75(4)$

$$\begin{aligned} [(2x-2)^{5/2}] &= (243)^{2/5} \\ 2x-2 &= 9 \\ +2 & \quad +2 \\ \frac{2x}{2} &= \frac{11}{2} \\ \boxed{x=5.5} \end{aligned}$$

Check:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{4}(2(5.5)-2)^{5/2} &= 60.75 \\ \checkmark 60.75 &= 60.75 \end{aligned}$$

3) $-2(x+11)^{11/7} + 25 = -9$

$$\begin{aligned} -2(x+11)^{11/7} &= -34 \\ \frac{-2(x+11)^{11/7}}{-2} &= \frac{-34}{-2} \\ [(x+11)^{11/7}] &= (17)^{7/11} \\ x+11 &= (17)^{7/11} \\ -11 & \quad -11 \\ \boxed{x = (17)^{7/11} - 11} \end{aligned}$$

Check:

$$\begin{aligned} -2(17)^{7/11} - 11 + 25 &= -9 \\ \checkmark -9 &= -9 \end{aligned}$$