

Investigating Monomials (pp. 1 of 4)

Definition

1) **Monomial**—What is a *monomial*?

The following are monomials:

2	$\frac{5}{3}$	-8.5
2x	$\frac{5}{3}y^2$	-8.5xy ²
0	9a ² b ³ c ⁷	$\sqrt{5}$

So monomials can include:

- real numbers
- variables
- exponents - whole #s

However, these are not monomials:

2 + x	x ² - 8.5
$\frac{9}{x}$	\sqrt{x}

So a monomial cannot have:

- addition
- subtraction
- variable in a radical $\sqrt{\quad}$
- variable in denom

Vocabulary

Using the monomials above, identify examples of the following definitions.

2) A constant is a monomial with no variables,

Examples: 2, $\frac{5}{3}$, -8.5, 0, $\sqrt{5}$

3) In a monomial, the leading coefficient is the numeric factor of the variable (or variables)

Examples: $\frac{2}{x}$ $\frac{5}{3}y^2$ $-8.5xy^2$ $9a^2b^3c^7$
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4) The degree of a monomial is the sum of the exponents on the variables only

Examples:

Monomial	
2x	1
$\frac{5}{3}y^2$	2
-8.5xy ²	3

Monomial	
9a ² b ³ c ⁷	12
$\sqrt{5}$	0
0	0

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Simplifying Monomials

Multiplying	Dividing
<p>Sample: $(5x^2y^3)(4xy^4)$ Expand: $5 \cdot x \cdot x \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y \cdot 4 \cdot x \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y$ Re-order: $5 \cdot 4 \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y$ Simplify: $20x^3y^7$</p>	<p>Sample: $\frac{18x^4y^3}{6xy^2}$ Expand: $\frac{18 \cdot \cancel{x} \cdot \cancel{x} \cdot \cancel{x} \cdot \cancel{x} \cdot \cancel{y} \cdot \cancel{y} \cdot y}{6 \cdot \cancel{x} \cdot \cancel{y} \cdot \cancel{y} \cdot y}$ Simplify: $3x^3y$</p>
<p>• What's the short-cut? <u>multiply</u> the coefficients <u>add</u> the exponents</p>	<p>• What's the short-cut? <u>divide</u> the coefficients <u>subtract</u> the exponents</p>
<p>• What's the rule? $a^m \cdot a^n =$ a^{m+n} Note: <u>Bases must be the same.</u></p>	<p>• What's the rule? $\frac{a^m}{a^n} =$ a^{m-n} Note: <u>Bases must be the same.</u></p>

Other Rules	Samples		
$a^{-n} = \frac{1}{a^n}$	$5^{-2} = \frac{1}{5^2} = \frac{1}{25}$	$x^{-4} = \frac{1}{x^4}$	$\frac{b^3}{b^9} = b^{3-9} = b^{-6} = \frac{1}{b^6}$
$(a^m)^n = a^{mn}$	$(5^2)^3 = 5^{2 \cdot 3} = 5^6 = 15625$	$(x^4)^5 = x^{4 \cdot 5} = x^{20}$	$(b^{-2})^6 = b^{-2 \cdot 6} = b^{-12} = \frac{1}{b^{12}}$
$\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^m = \frac{a^m}{b^m}$	$\left(\frac{5}{8}\right)^2 = \frac{5^2}{8^2} = \frac{25}{64}$	$\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^7 = \frac{x^7}{y^7}$	$\left(\frac{b^3}{c^2}\right)^5 = \frac{b^{3 \cdot 5}}{c^{2 \cdot 5}} = \frac{b^{15}}{c^{10}}$
$(ab)^m = a^m b^m$	$(5x^2)^2 = 5^2(x^2)^2 = 25x^{2 \cdot 2} = 25x^4$	$(xy^2)^6 = x^6(y^2)^6 = x^6y^{2 \cdot 6} = x^6y^{12}$	$(4x^2y^4)^3 = 4^3(x^2)^3(y^4)^3 = 64x^{2 \cdot 3}y^{4 \cdot 3} = 64x^6y^{12}$

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Sample Problems

$$1) (2ab^2)(-4a^3b^3c) = 2 \cdot -4 a^{1+3} b^{2+3} c$$

$$= -8a^4b^5c$$

$$2) (3x^2)^3 = 3^3(x^2)^3$$

$$= 27x^{2 \cdot 3} = 27x^6$$

$$3) \frac{x^{11}}{x^5} = x^{11-5} = x^6$$

$$4) (6x^2y^3)(xyz)^3 = (6x^2y^3)(x^3y^3z^3)$$

$$= 6x^{2+3}y^{3+3}z^3$$

$$= 6x^5y^6z^3$$

$$5) (6a^{-3}b^2)^{-3} = \frac{1}{(6a^{-3}b^2)^3}$$

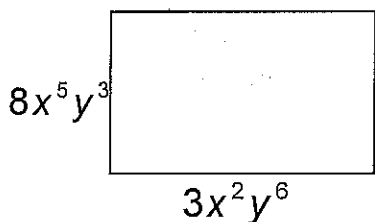
$$= \frac{1}{6^3(a^{-3})^3(b^2)^3} = \frac{1}{216a^{-9}b^6} = \frac{a^9}{216b^6}$$

$$6) \left(\frac{-3x^3y^6}{x^5y^{-2}z^{-1}}\right)^2 = \frac{(-3)^2(x^3)^2(y^6)^2}{(x^5)^2(y^{-2})^2(z^{-1})^2}$$

$$= \frac{9x^6y^{12}}{x^{10}y^{-4}z^{-2}} = 9x^{6-10}y^{12-(-4)}z^{0-(-2)}$$

$$= 9x^{-4}y^{16}z^2 = \frac{9y^{16}z^2}{x^4}$$

- 7) A rectangle has a width represented by $3x^2y^6$ and a length represented by $8x^5y^3$. What expression can be used to represent the area of the rectangle?

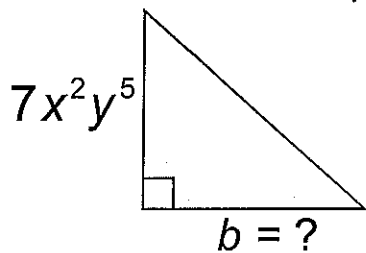


$l \cdot w$

$$(8x^5y^3) \cdot (3x^2y^6)$$

$$= 8 \cdot 3 x^{5+2} y^{3+6} = 24x^7y^9$$

- 8) The area of the triangle below is represented by $14x^4y^9$. Find the expression that represents the base of the triangle.



$$A = \frac{1}{2} b \cdot h$$

$$14x^4y^9 = \frac{1}{2} b \cdot 7x^2y^5$$

$$2(14x^4y^9) = 2\left(\frac{1}{2} b \cdot 7x^2y^5\right)$$

$$28x^4y^9 = b \cdot 7x^2y^5$$

$$\frac{28x^4y^9}{7x^2y^5} = b \cdot \frac{7x^2y^5}{7x^2y^5} \rightarrow b = \frac{28x^4y^9}{7x^2y^5}$$

$$= 4x^{4-2}y^{9-5}$$

$$= 4x^2y^4$$

Key

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HW

Practice Problems

Simplify the following expressions.

1) $x^3 \cdot x^3 \cdot x \cdot x^5$

$$x^{3+3+1+5} = \boxed{x^{12}}$$

2) $(-3xy^2)^3 = (-3)^3(x)^3(y^2)^3$

$$= \boxed{-27x^3y^6}$$

3) $\frac{-x^6y^6}{x^3y^4} = -1 \cdot x^{6-3} y^{6-4}$

$$= \boxed{-x^3y^2}$$

4) $(3x^2y^6)(-4x^2y^6)$

$$3 \cdot -4 x^{2+2} y^{6+6} = \boxed{-12x^4y^{12}}$$

5) $\frac{ab^4c^6}{a^5bc^2} = a^{1-5} b^{4-1} c^{6-2}$

$$= a^{-4} b^3 c^4 = \boxed{\frac{b^3c^4}{a^4}}$$

6) $\frac{2a^5b^3c^3}{8a^3b^3c} = \frac{1}{4} a^{5-3} b^{3-3} c^{3-1} = \frac{1}{4} a^2 b^0 c^2$

$$= \boxed{\frac{a^2c^2}{4}}$$

7) $\frac{40a^{-1}b^{-7}}{20a^{-5}b^3} = 2a^{-1+5} b^{-7-3}$

$$= 2a^4 b^{-10} = \boxed{\frac{2a^4}{b^{10}}}$$

8) $\frac{(-15m^5n^8)(m^3n^2)^2}{45m^4n} = \frac{-15m^9n^8}{(45m^4n)(m^3n^4)^2}$

$$= \frac{-15m^9n^8}{(45m^4n)(m^6n^4)} = \frac{-15m^9n^8}{45m^{10}n^5} = \boxed{\frac{-n^3}{3m^5}}$$

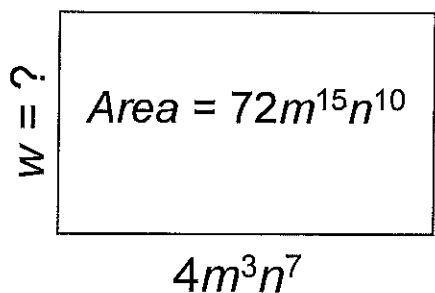
- 9) The height of a triangle is represented by the expression $15p^6qr^3$. The base is represented by $8p^2q^3r^5$. Find the expression that can be used to represent the area of the triangle.

$$A = \frac{1}{2} (8p^2q^3r^5)(15p^6qr^3)$$

$$A = \frac{1}{2}bh$$

$$A = 60p^8q^4r^8$$

- 10) The length and area of a rectangle are given in the diagram below. Find the expression that can be used to represent the width of the rectangle.



$$A = lw$$

$$72m^{15}n^{10} = (4m^3n^7)w$$

$$\frac{72m^{15}n^{10}}{4m^3n^7} = w$$

$$\boxed{18m^{12}n^3 = w}$$