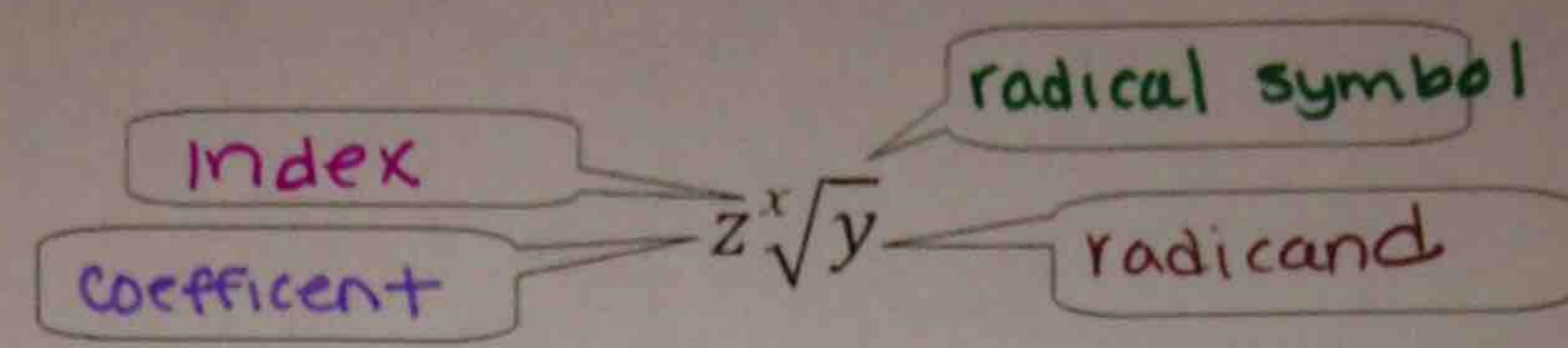


# 1.1 Radical Operations

SWBAT simplify radical expressions by applying the appropriate operation.



When simplifying radicals, factor the insides of the radical. Then circle the pairs, triples or quadruples (depending on the index) and pull them outside. Multiply outside factors on the outside and inside factors on the inside.

**Example 1:** Simplify  $\sqrt[3]{54y^{10}}$

$$\sqrt[3]{\begin{matrix} 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \\ 4y \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y \end{matrix}}$$

$$3y^3 \sqrt[3]{2y}$$

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**Example 2:** Simplify  $\sqrt[4]{32x^6y^2}$

$$\sqrt[4]{\begin{matrix} 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot yy \\ x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \end{matrix}}$$

$$2x \sqrt[4]{2x^2y^2}$$

**Example 3:** Simplify  $x\sqrt{8x^6}$

$$\begin{matrix} 8 \\ 4 \cdot 2 \\ 2 \cdot 2 \end{matrix} \times \sqrt{2 \cdot 2 \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x}$$

$$x \cdot 2 \cdot x \cdot x \cdot \sqrt{2}$$

$$2x^4\sqrt{2}$$

**Example 4:** Simplify  $\sqrt[3]{27x^9y^3}$

$$\begin{matrix} 27 \\ 9 \\ 3 \cdot 3 \end{matrix}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{\begin{matrix} 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot yy \cdot yy \\ x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \end{matrix}}$$

$$3x^3y$$

**Example 5:**  $\sqrt{40} \cdot \sqrt{20} = \sqrt{800}$

$$\sqrt{\begin{matrix} 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 5 \cdot 5 \end{matrix}}$$

$$2 \cdot 2 \cdot 5 \sqrt{2}$$

$$20\sqrt{2}$$

When multiplying radicals, start by simplifying the radicals, if necessary. Then, multiply **outsides by outsides** and **insides by insides**. Then simplify again.

**Example 6:**  $\sqrt{12} \cdot \sqrt{18} = \sqrt{216}$

$$\sqrt{\begin{matrix} 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \end{matrix}}$$

$$6\sqrt{6}$$

**Example 7:**  $2\sqrt{8} \cdot 3\sqrt{2} = 6\sqrt{16}$

$$= 6(4)$$

$$= 24$$

**Example 8:**  $-6\sqrt{10} \cdot \sqrt{15} = -6\sqrt{150}$

$$\begin{matrix} 150 \\ 15 \\ 5 \cdot 3 \end{matrix} - 6\sqrt{\begin{matrix} 5 \cdot 5 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \end{matrix}}$$

$$-30\sqrt{6}$$

### Adding Radicals

\*\*Only add like terms (like radicands and indices!)...so simplify first, then add if possible.

Example 1:  $\sqrt{72} + \sqrt{32}$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 72 & & 32 \\ \overline{8} \quad 9 & & \overline{8} \quad 4 \\ 4 \quad 2 & & 4 \quad 2 \\ 2 \quad 2 & & 2 \quad 2 \\ \hline 6\sqrt{2} + 4\sqrt{2} & = & 10\sqrt{2} \end{array}$$

Example 2:  $2\sqrt{20} + 5\sqrt{80}$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 2\sqrt{20} & + & 5\sqrt{80} \\ \overline{4} \quad 5 & & \overline{8} \quad 10 \\ 4 \quad 2 & & 4 \quad 2 \\ 2 \quad 2 & & 2 \quad 2 \\ \hline 4\sqrt{5} + 20\sqrt{5} & = & 24\sqrt{5} \end{array}$$

### Multiplying Radicals

\*\*Multiply using the BOX method or FOIL method\*\*

Example 5:  $(2\sqrt{3} + 3\sqrt{5})(3 - \sqrt{3})$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 2\sqrt{3} & + & 3\sqrt{5} \\ \hline 3 & | & 6\sqrt{3} \quad 9\sqrt{5} \\ -\sqrt{3} & | & -2\sqrt{9} \quad -3\sqrt{15} \\ & & = -2(3) \end{array}$$

$-6 + 6\sqrt{3} + 9\sqrt{5} - 3\sqrt{15}$

Example 6:  $(4\sqrt{2} + 7)^2 = (4\sqrt{2} + 7)(4\sqrt{2} + 7)$

$$(4\sqrt{2} + 7)(4\sqrt{2} + 7)$$

$$16\sqrt{4} + 28\sqrt{2} + 28\sqrt{2} + 49$$

$$16(2) + 56\sqrt{2} + 49$$

$$32 + 56\sqrt{2} + 49$$

$$81 + 56\sqrt{2}$$

### Subtracting Radicals

\*\*Only subtract like terms (like radicands and indices!)...so simplify first, then subtract if possible

Example 3:  $6\sqrt{18} - 3\sqrt{50}$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} 6\sqrt{18} & - & 3\sqrt{50} \\ \overline{6} \quad 3 & & \overline{5} \quad 10 \\ 2 \quad 3 & & 5 \quad 2 \\ 2 \quad 2 & & 2 \quad 2 \\ \hline 18\sqrt{2} - 15\sqrt{2} & = & 3\sqrt{2} \end{array}$$

Example 4:  $\sqrt[3]{81} - 2\sqrt[3]{24}$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \sqrt[3]{81} & - & 2\sqrt[3]{24} \\ \overline{9} \quad 9 & & \overline{10} \quad 4 \\ 3 \quad 3 \quad 3 \quad 3 & & 3 \quad 2 \quad 2 \quad 2 \\ \hline 3\sqrt[3]{3} - 4\sqrt[3]{3} & = & -1\sqrt[3]{3} \end{array}$$

### Simplifying Quotients

\*\*use a conjugate to rationalize a denominator\*\*  
**conjugate**—expressions that differ only in the signs of the second terms. ( $x + y$  and  $x - y$  are conjugates)

Example 7:  $\frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{4-\sqrt{3}} \cdot \frac{(4+\sqrt{3})}{(4+\sqrt{3})}$

$$\frac{8+2\sqrt{3}+4\sqrt{3}+3}{16+4\sqrt{3}-4\sqrt{3}-3} = \frac{11+6\sqrt{3}}{13}$$

Example 8:  $\frac{(1+\sqrt{5})}{(2-\sqrt{7})} \cdot \frac{(2+\sqrt{7})}{(2+\sqrt{7})}$

$$\frac{2+1\sqrt{7}+2\sqrt{5}+\sqrt{35}}{4+2\sqrt{7}-2\sqrt{7}-7} =$$

$$= \frac{2+2\sqrt{5}+1\sqrt{7}+\sqrt{35}}{-3}$$