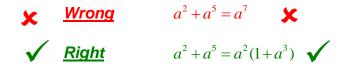


## **Section 2: Indices**

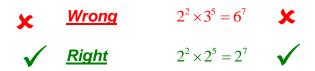
## **Crucial points**

1. **Make sure you use the law of indices in appropriate situations** Remember you cannot apply the laws of indices to the sum or difference of two expressions involving indices (although you may be able to simplify in another way.)



## 2. Look at the base

Make sure that you only apply the first two laws of indices to expressions with the same base



3. Remember the value of  $a^0$ 

 $a^0$  is always 1, for any value of a

## 4. When evaluating expressions, don't make it harder than necessary

When working out an expression like  $4^{\frac{5}{2}}$ , which involves taking the square root and raising to the power 5, make it easy by working out the square root first. If you work out 4 to the power of 5 first (without a calculator since C1 is a non-calculator paper), then you will waste a lot of time and probably be unable to then find the square root.

