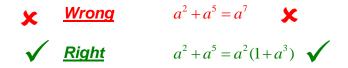


Section 2: Indices

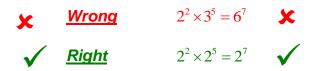
Crucial points

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.

