Properties of Integer Exponents - Step-by-Step Lesson

1. Simplify $5^3 \times 5^{-6}$



Explanation:

Step 1) First we look to see what is being asked of us.

Step 2) This is a base with a negative exponent. We need to turn it into a positive exponent. We can do that by taking the reciprocal of it.

It would look like this:

$$5^3 \times 1$$

Step 3) Expand the exponents fully.

$$125 \times \frac{1}{15625} = \frac{125}{15625}$$

Step 4) Reduce the fraction. Both the numerator and denominator are divisible by 125.