



Name _____

Reciprocal Reasoning

Directions: Rewrite each expression so all exponents are positive. Then write one short sentence explaining why the negative exponent becomes a reciprocal.

Expression	Positive Exponent Form	Explanation
1) 2^{-4}		
2) x^{-3}		
3) 5^{-2}		
4) $\frac{1}{a^{-5}}$		
5) $\frac{b^{-2}}{1}$		
6) $\frac{1}{10^{-3}}$		
7) $\frac{c^4}{d^{-2}}$		
8) $\frac{m^{-1}}{n^3}$		