Section 2.4 Questions

- 1) Use your own words to explain how to:
- a) multiply two powers with the same base

To multiply two powers with the same base, you need to add the exponents and the base of the product is the same as the base in the question.

b) divide two powers with the same base

To divide powers with the same base, you need to subtract the exponent of the power in the denominator from the exponent of the power in the numerator, and the base of the quotient is the same as the base in the question.

- 2) Do you think it makes sense to simplify an expression as much as possible before using a calculator? Explain.
- I think it makes sense to simplify an expression as much as possible before I use a calculator because it is less likely that I will make errors. Also, it may work out that the simplified powers are small enough that I might not need a calculator, and I can evaluate the expression using mental math.
- 3) When can you not add or subtract exponents to multiply or divide powers?

You cannot add the exponents to multiply powers when the bases are different. I cannot subtract the exponents to divide powers when the bases are different.