

**LESSON**  
**7.2****Challenge Practice***For use with the lesson "Apply Exponent Properties Involving Quotients"*

1. Solve for the value of  $a$  if  $\frac{ax}{a^2y} = a^3$  and  $x = a^5y$ .
2. Solve for the value of  $b$  if  $\frac{(b+1)^2}{b^2} = \frac{4(b-1)^2}{b^2}$ .
3. Solve for the values of  $x$  and  $y$  if  $\frac{c^xc^y}{c^{xy}} = c$  and  $c^{y-1} = c^3$ .
4. Solve for the value of  $c$  if  $2c + 4 = 3b^2$  and  $b^6 = c^3$ .
5. Solve for the value of  $y$  if  $\frac{d^{3x}}{d^{3y}} = d^{3x-y}$ .

**In Exercises 6–8, use the following information.**

A common formula used to compute annual salary raises is

$$\text{Salary} = \text{Starting Salary} \cdot (1 + r)^n$$

where  $r$  is the rate of annual raise and  $n$  is the number of years of employment.

**Example:**

Find the salary of an employee who has worked for 2 years and whose starting salary was \$25,000 at a company that gives annual raises at a rate of  $r = 0.1$ .

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{New Salary} &= \$25,000(1 + 0.1)^2 \\ &= \$25,000(1.21) \\ &= \$30,250 \end{aligned}$$

Suppose a company gives annual raises at a rate of  $r = 0.05$ .

6. What is the salary of an employee whose starting salary was \$40,000 per year and has worked at the company for 10 years?
7. What is the salary of an employee whose starting salary was \$50,000 per year and has worked at the company for 5 years?
8. What is the salary of an employee whose starting salary was \$100,000 per year and has worked at the company for 20 years?