## Algebra I Lesson 7.2 – Powers of 10 and Scientific Notation Mrs. Snow, Instructor

If we were to want to write the weight of an atomic particle or the distance to a far off galaxy, we would be writing some extremely small or large numbers. Scientists have a way to deal with this dilemma it is called **scientific notation.** For example instead of writing a decimal number 0.00000000023. we can write in scientific notation and have:  $2.3 \times 10^{-11}$ . Really? Well that is a multiplication sign between the two numbers and we need to think of  $2.3 \times 10^{-11}$  as a product of two numbers: 2.3, the digit term and  $10^{-11}$  as an exponential term. Doing our multiplication.... we would eventually get our teeny tiny decimal number.

## Vocabulary

Scientific Notation – standard format for expressing very large and very small numbers. A number is written in 2 parts. First part is a number greater than or equal to 1 and less than 10. The second part is a power of 10:

$$2.3 \times 10^5 = 2.3 \times 100000 = 230000$$

**Standard Form** - The usual way that a number is written (not scientific form)

Complete the table below:

Power	10 <sup>3</sup>	10 <sup>2</sup>	10 <sup>1</sup>	10 <sup>0</sup>	10 <sup>-1</sup>	10 <sup>-2</sup>	10 <sup>-3</sup>	
Value	1000	_	10	1				
	•	1	1				1	
$\div 10$								

Notice how we are dividing by 10 between each number. AND THE BASE IS ALWAYS 10

To write in powers of 10:	
$10^{-3} = .001$	Start with the number 1 and move the decimal point.
$\leftarrow$	When a negative exponent move to the left
	exponent number of times.
$10^4 = 10000$	
$\rightarrow$	When a positive exponent move to the right exponent number of
	times.
$10,000,000 = 10^7$	When the number is greater than 0, count the number ofplaces to
←	get to the 1, this is your exponent value.
$0.000001 = 10^{-6}$	The decimal is exponent places to the left of 1 so the exponent is
→	negative

Find the value of each expression.

106	10 <sup>-5</sup>	$853.4 \times 10^{5}$
$0.163 \times 10^{-2}$	Write each number as a power of 10: 100,000,000,000	. 000000000001

