

# Computing Powers

Computing a positive integer power of a number is easily seen as a recursive process. Consider  $a^n$ :

- If  $n = 0$ ,  $a^n$  is 1 (by definition)
- If  $n > 0$ ,  $a^n$  is  $a * a^{n-1}$

File *Power.java* contains a main program that reads in integers *base* and *exp* and calls method *power* to compute  $base^{exp}$ . Fill in the code for *power* to make it a recursive method to do the power computation. The comments provide guidance.

```
// *****
//    Power.java
//
//    Reads in two integers and uses a recursive power method
//    to compute the first raised to the second power.
// *****

import java.util.Scanner;

public class Power
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        int base, exp;
        int answer;

        Scanner scan = new Scanner(System.in);

        System.out.print("Welcome to the power program! ");
        System.out.println("Please use integers only.");

        //get base
        System.out.print("Enter the base you would like raised to a power: ");
        base = scan.nextInt();

        //get exponent
        System.out.print("Enter the power you would like it raised to: ");
        exp = scan.nextInt();

        answer = power(base, exp);
        System.out.println(base + " raised to the " + exp + " is " + answer);
    }

    // -----
    //    Computes and returns base^exp
    // -----
    public static int power(int base, int exp)
    {
        int pow;

        //if the exponent is 0, set pow to 1

        //otherwise set pow to base*base^(exp-1)

        //return pow
    }
}
```