

Chapter 4: Practice Makes Perfect

A huge part of learning recursion is practice! Please try the following problems; there are solutions in Chapter 5 to check your work. Keep in mind that these can be pretty difficult!

```

1 #####
2 # 1) we'll start off with something familiar. without looking at sum digits,
3 #   implement the following function so that md(number) returns the PRODUCT of
4 #   digits of number.
5 #
6 #   md(4023) -> 4 * 0 * 2 * 3 = 0
7 #   md(423) -> 4 * 2 * 3 = 24
8 #####
9
10 def md(number):
11     if ____:
12         return ____
13
14     _____
15     _____
16
17     return _____

```

```

1 #####
2 # 2) Exponents are basically repeated multiplication! For example,
3 #   2^3 (2 to the power of 3) = 2 * 2 * 2 = 8
4 #   Basically, it's three 2's multiplied together.
5 #   We can write a function for this recursively!
6 #   2 is the base, and 3 is the exponent in this case.
7 #   So, for base ^ exponent, write the following function that returns that va
8 #
9 #   HINT: remember when we did factorial, we thought about how we have to
10 #   make the problem smaller, and tried to relate the smaller problem
11 #   to our original problem. That may help here!
12 #
13 #   rec_power(2, 3) = 2 * 2 * 2 = 8
14 #   rec_power(4, 2) = 4 * 4 = 16

```

```

15 #
16 #####
17
18 def rec_power(base, exponent):
19     if ____:
20         return ____
21
22     exponent = ____
23     return ____

```

```

1  #####
2  # 3) Implement the following function so that count8(number)
3  #     counts the number of times the number "8" appears in number.
4  #
5  #     I've given you parts of the base cases; if the number left is 8, we've
6  #     found an 8, so what should we return?
7  #     If the number left isn't 8, but can't be made any smaller, what should
8  #     we return then?
9  #
10 #     count8(3283) -> 1
11 #     count8(32883) -> 2
12 #     count8(8388) -> 3
13 #####
14
15 def count8(number):
16     if number == 8:
17         return ____
18     elif number < 10:
19         return ____
20
21     rightmost_digit = ____
22     rest_of_number = ____
23
24     if rightmost_digit == 8:
25         return ____
26     else:
27         return ____

```