Remember, the metric system is built upon base units (grams, liters, meters, etc.) and prefixes which represent orders of magnitude (powers of 10) of those base units. In other words, a single "prefix unit" (such as milligram) is equal to some order of magnitude of the base unit (such as gram). Below are the metric prefixes that you are responsible for and examples of unit equations and conversion factors of each. It does not matter what metric base unit the prefixes are being applied to, they always act in the same way.

	exa	1 <b>E</b> =	1x10 <sup>18</sup>	$1 EJ = 1 \times 10^{18} J$	or	$1 \times 10^{18} J = 1 EJ$	$\frac{1EJ}{1\times10^{18}J}$	or	$\frac{1\times10^{18}\mathrm{J}}{1E\mathrm{J}}$
unit	peta	1 P =	1x10 <sup>15</sup>	$1 Pfl = 1x10^{15} fl$	or	$1x10^{15} fl = 1 Pfl$	$\frac{1 Pfl}{1 \times 10^{15} fl}$	or	$\frac{1 \times 10^{15} \text{ fl}}{1 P \text{fl}}$
base un	tera	1 <b>T</b> =	1x10 <sup>12</sup>	1 TC = 1x10 <sup>12</sup> C	or	$1 \times 10^{12} \text{ C} = 1 \text{ TC}$	$\frac{1\text{TC}}{1\times10^{12}\text{C}}$	or	$\frac{1\times10^{12}\mathrm{C}}{1\mathrm{TC}}$
	giga	1 <b>G</b> =	1x10°	$1 \text{ GB} = 1 \text{x} 10^9 \text{ B}$	or	$1x10^9 B = 1 GB$	$\frac{1GB}{1\times10^{9}B}$	or	$\frac{1\times10^{9} \text{ B}}{1\text{ GB}}$
Larger than the	mega	1 <b>M</b> =	lx10 <sup>6</sup>	$1 \text{ MW} = 1 \text{x} 10^6 \text{ W}$	or	$1 \times 10^6 \text{ W} = 1 \text{ MW}$	$\frac{1 MW}{1 \times 10^6 W}$	or	$\frac{1\times10^6\mathrm{W}}{1M\mathrm{W}}$
arger	kilo	1 k =	1x10 <sup>3</sup>	$1 \text{ kcal} = 1 \text{x} 10^3 \text{ cal}$	or	$1 \times 10^3$ cal = 1 kcal	$\frac{1 k \text{cal}}{1 \times 10^3 \text{ cal}}$	or	$\frac{1 \times 10^3 \text{ cal}}{1 \text{ kcal}}$
Ī	hecto	1 h =	1x10 <sup>2</sup>	$1 hT = 1x10^2 T$	or	$1 \times 10^2 \text{ T} = 1 \text{ hT}$	$\frac{1h\mathbf{T}}{1\times10^2\mathbf{T}}$	or	$\frac{1\times10^2\mathrm{T}}{1h\mathrm{T}}$
I	deca	1 da =	1x10 <sup>1</sup>	$1 \frac{da}{da}V = 1x10^{1} V$	or		$\frac{1  daV}{1 \times 10^1  V}$	or	$\frac{1\times10^{1}\mathrm{V}}{1\text{da}\mathrm{V}}$
1	deca			$1 daV = 1x10^{1} V$ $1 dL = 1x10^{-1} L$	_	1x10 <sup>1</sup> V = 1 daV  - BASE UNIT -  1x10 <sup>-1</sup> L = 1 dL		or or	
		1 <b>d</b> =	1x10 <sup>-1</sup>		or	- BASE UNIT - 1x10 <sup>-1</sup> L = 1 dL	1×10 <sup>1</sup> V		$\frac{1  da \text{V}}{1 \times 10^{-1}  \text{L}}$
unit	deci	1 d =	1x10 <sup>-1</sup> 1x10 <sup>-2</sup>	1 dL = 1x10 <sup>-1</sup> L	or	- BASE UNIT -  lx10 <sup>-1</sup> L = 1 dL  lx10 <sup>-2</sup> Pa = 1 cPa	$ \frac{1dL}{1\times10^{-1}L} $ $ \frac{1cPa}{1\times10^{-1}L} $	or	$\frac{1 \times 10^{-1} L}{1 dL}$ $\frac{1 \times 10^{-2} Pa}{1 dL}$
the base unit	deci centi milli	1 d = 1 c = 1 m =	1x10 <sup>-1</sup> 1x10 <sup>-2</sup> 1x10 <sup>-3</sup>	$1 dL = 1x10^{-1} L$ $1 cPa = 1x10^{-2} Pa$	or	- BASE UNIT -  1x10 <sup>-1</sup> L = 1 dL  1x10 <sup>-2</sup> Pa = 1 cPa  1x10 <sup>-3</sup> A = 1 mA	$ \frac{1dL}{1\times10^{-1}L} $ $ \frac{1cPa}{1\times10^{-2}Pa} $ $ \frac{1mA}{1} $	or or	$\frac{1 \times 10^{-1} L}{1 dL}$ $\frac{1 \times 10^{-2} Pa}{1 cPa}$ $\frac{1 \times 10^{-3} A}{1 mA}$
Smaller than the base unit	deci centi milli	1 d = 1 c = 1 m = 1 μ =	lxl0 <sup>-1</sup> lxl0 <sup>-2</sup> lxl0 <sup>-3</sup> lxl0 <sup>-6</sup>	1 dL = $1x10^{-1}$ L 1 cPa = $1x10^{-2}$ Pa 1 mA = $1x10^{-3}$ A	or or or or	- BASE UNIT -  1x10 <sup>-1</sup> L = 1 dL  1x10 <sup>-2</sup> Pa = 1 cPa  1x10 <sup>-3</sup> A = 1 mA  1x10 <sup>-6</sup> g = 1 μg	$ \frac{1 dL}{1 \times 10^{-1}L} $ $ \frac{1 cPa}{1 \times 10^{-2}Pa} $ $ \frac{1 mA}{1 \times 10^{-3}A} $ $ \frac{1 \mu g}{1} $	or or	$\frac{1 \times 10^{-1} L}{1 dL}$ $\frac{1 \times 10^{-2} Pa}{1 cPa}$ $\frac{1 \times 10^{-3} A}{1 mA}$ $\frac{1 \times 10^{-6} g}{1 cPa}$

Each of these have positive exponents because each prefix is larger than the base unit (increasing orders of magnitude). Remember, the power of 10 is always written with the base unit whether it is on the top or the bottom of the ratio.

Each of these have negative exponents because each prefix is smaller than the base unit (decreasing orders of magnitude). Remember, the power of 10 is always written with the base unit whether it is on the top or the bottom of the ratio. The ratios can be "flipped" so that the appropriate unit is on the bottom of the ratio.

You are not responsible for many of the base units used in the above examples, but in case you are curious here they are:

 $1 \text{ fs} = 1 \times 10^{-15} \text{ s}$ 

 $1 a\Omega = 1x10^{-18} \Omega$ 

or  $1x10^{-18} \Omega = 1 a\Omega$ 

m = meter, length; F = farad, capacitance; s = second, time;  $\Omega = ohm$ , electrical resistance.

 $1x10^{-15}$ 

 $1x10^{-18}$ 

femto

atto

J = Joule, energy; fl = flop, computation per second; C = Cochrane, warp field distortion; B = byte, information storage; W = watt, power; cal = energy;

T = Tesla, magnetic field strength; V = volt, electric potential; L = liter, volume; Pa = Pascal, pressure; A = ampere, electrical current; g = gram, mass;