

## 6.6 Logarithmic and Exponential Equations MATH 161 THOMPSON

1.)  $\log_5 x = 2 \quad 5^2 = x \quad x = 25$

2.)  $\log_3(11x) = 3 \quad 11x = 3^3 \quad x = \frac{27}{11}$

3.)  $\log_8(x+6) = \log_8 14 \quad *when bases equal they drop \quad x+6=14 \quad x = 8$

4.)  $\frac{1}{3} \log_2 x = 2 \log_2 3 \quad \sqrt[3]{x} = 3^2 \quad x = 9^3 \quad x = 729$

5.)  $5 \log_2 x = -\log_2 32 \quad x^5 = \frac{1}{32} \quad x = \sqrt[5]{\frac{1}{32}} \quad x = \frac{1}{2}$

6.)  $2 \log_2(x-9) + \log_2 2 = 5$  Condense  $\log_2 2(x-9)^2 = 5$   $2^5 = 32$

$2(x^2 - 18x + 81) = 32 \quad \text{divide } 32/2$

$x^2 - 18x + 81 \equiv 16$

$x^2 - 18x + 65 = 0$

$(x-5)(x-13) = 0 \quad x = 5, 13 \quad (x-9) \text{ has to be positive}$

7.)  $\log x + \log(x-15) = 2 \quad \text{condense the logs (multiply since +)}$

$\log x(x-15) = 2 \quad \text{change to exponential form}$

$x^2 - 15x - 100$

$(x-20)(x+5) = 0 \quad x = \cancel{-5, 20} \quad (x-15) \text{ has to be positive}$

8a.)  $\log(4x+4) = 1 + \log(x-9) \quad \log(4x+4) - \log(x-9) = 1$

$\frac{4x+4}{x-9} = 10^1 \quad \text{cross multiply}$

$10x-90=4x+4$

$x = \frac{47}{3}$

$$8b.) \log(6x + 5) = 1 + \log(x - 5)$$

$$\log(6x + 5) - \log(x - 5) = 1$$

$$\text{condense: } \log \frac{6x+5}{x-5} = 1 \rightarrow \frac{6x+5}{x-5} = 10 \rightarrow 10(x-5) = 6x+5 \rightarrow 10x-50 = 6x+5$$

$$4x = 55 \quad x = \frac{55}{4}$$

$$8c.) \log(3x + 6) = 1 + \log(x - 7) \rightarrow \log(3x+6) - \log(x-7) = 1$$

$$\text{condense: } \log_{10} \frac{3x+6}{x-7} = 1 \rightarrow \frac{3x+6}{x-7} = 10 \rightarrow 10(x-7) = 3x+6$$

$$10x - 70 = 3x + 6 \quad x = \frac{76}{7}$$

$$9.) \log_3(x + 10) + \log_3(x + 4) = 3 \quad \log_3(x + 10)(x + 4) = 3$$

$$(x+10)(x+4) = 27$$

$$x^2 + 14x + 40 = 27$$

$$x^2 + 14x + 13 = 0$$

$$(x+13)(x+1) = 0 \quad x = -1, -13 \quad (-1+11) \text{ is positive}$$

$$10.) \log_2(x - 5) = 3 - \log_2(x - 3) \rightarrow \log_2(x-5) + \log_2(x-3) = 3$$

$$\text{condense: } \log_2(x - 5)(x - 3) = 3 \rightarrow x^2 - 8x + 15 = 8$$

$$x^2 - 8x + 7 = 0$$

$(x-7)(x-1)$   $x=7, 1$  can't have negative  $x = 7$

$$11.) \log_{1/7}(x^2+x) - \log_{1/7}(x^2-x) = -1 \rightarrow \log_{1/7} \frac{x^2+x}{x^2-x} = -1 \rightarrow \frac{x(x+1)}{x(x-1)} = 7$$

*cross multiply after cancelling xs*  $7x-7 = x+1$

$$6x = 8 \quad x = \frac{4}{3}$$

$$12a.) \log_a(x - 2) - \log_a(x + 7) = \log_a(x - 3) - \log_a(x + 4)$$

$$\text{condense: } \log_a \frac{(x-2)}{(x+7)} = \log_a \frac{(x-3)}{(x+4)} \rightarrow \frac{(x-2)}{(x+7)} = \frac{(x-3)}{(x+4)}$$

$$(x-2)(x+4) = (x+7)(x-3)$$

$$x^2 + 2x - 8 = x^2 - 4x - 21$$

$$-2x = -13 \quad x = \frac{13}{2}$$

$$12b.) \log_a(x - 1) - \log_a(x + 2) = \log_a(x - 4) - \log_a(x + 2)$$

$$\text{condense: } \log_a \frac{(x-1)}{(x+2)} = \log_a \frac{(x-4)}{(x+2)} \rightarrow \frac{(x-1)}{(x+2)} = \frac{(x-4)}{(x+2)}$$

$$(x-1)(x+2) = (x+2)(x-4)$$

$$x^2 + x - 2 = x^2 - 2x - 8$$

$$3x = -6$$

*x = -2 but log can't be negative*

**NO SOLUTION**

$$13.) (\log_2 x)^2 - 5(\log_2 x) = 6$$

$$\text{Use u substitution: } u^2 - 5u - 6 = 0 \quad u = \log_2 x$$

$$(x-6)(x+1) = 0$$

$$x = 6, -1 \text{ therefore:}$$

$$\log_2 x = 6$$

$$2^6 = 64$$

$$\log_2 x = -1$$

$$2^{-1} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$14.) 7^{x-3} = 49 \rightarrow \text{same base on both sides}$$

$$7^{x-3} = 7^2 \quad x-3 = 2 \quad x = 5$$

$$15.) 8^x = 13 \rightarrow \text{add } \log_8 \text{ to both sides}$$

$$\log_8 8^x = \log_8 13 \quad x = \log_8 13 \quad * \text{base on bottom}$$

$$x = \frac{\log 13}{\log 8} \text{ first answer} \quad = 1.233 \quad * \text{round to 3 decimal places}$$

You can always use  $\ln$ .....  $\frac{\ln 13}{\ln 8} = 1.233$

$$16.) 4^{-x} = 3.6 \rightarrow -\log_4 3.6$$

You can always use ln.....  $\frac{\ln 3.6}{\ln 4} = -0.924$

$$x = -\frac{\log 3.6}{\log 4} \text{ first answer } \approx -0.924 \text{ *round to 3 decimal places}$$

$$17.) 5(3^{9x}) = 8 \rightarrow$$

$$3^{9x} = \frac{8}{5} \quad \text{change to log form } \log_3 \left(\frac{8}{5}\right) = 9x \quad \text{change base formula}$$

$$9x = \frac{\ln \left(\frac{8}{5}\right)}{\ln 3} \rightarrow x = \frac{\ln \left(\frac{8}{5}\right)}{(9 \ln(3))} \approx 0.048 \quad \text{*use parentheses in calculator}$$

divide by 9 – move it to the bottom

$$18.) 2^{1-5x} = 5^x \rightarrow \text{TAKE } \ln \text{ OF BOTH SIDE}$$

$$= \ln 2^{1-5x} = \ln 5^x \quad \text{exponent moves out in front then distribute}$$

$$(1-5x)\ln 2 = x \ln 5$$

$$\ln 2 = x \ln 5 + 5x \ln 2 \quad \text{move } x \text{ to the right to keep it positive}$$

$$\ln 2 = x \ln 5 + 5x \ln 2$$

$$\ln 2 = x(\ln 5 + 5 \ln 2) = \quad \text{factor out the } x$$

$$x = \frac{\ln 2}{\ln 5 + 5 \ln 2} \quad x \approx 0.137$$

$$19.) \pi^{1-5x} = e^{2x} \rightarrow \text{TAKE } \ln \text{ OF BOTH SIDE}$$

$$= \ln \pi^{1-5x} = \ln e^{2x} \quad \text{exponent moves out in front then distribute}$$

$$(1-5x)\ln \pi = 2x$$

$$\ln \pi - 5x \ln \pi = 2x \quad \text{move } x \text{ to the right to keep it positive}$$

$$\ln \pi = 5x \ln \pi + 2x$$

$$\ln \pi = x(5 \ln \pi + 2) \quad \text{factor out the } x$$

$$x = \frac{\ln \pi}{5 \ln \pi + 2} \quad x \approx 0.148$$

20.)  $2^{2x} + 2^x - 56 = 0 \rightarrow \text{let } u = 2^x$

$$u^2 + u - 56 = 0$$

$$(u + 8)(u - 7) = 0 \quad u = -8, 7$$

$$2^x = -8$$

no solution

You can always use ln.....  $\frac{\ln 7}{\ln 2} = 2.807$

$$2^x = 7$$

$x = \log_2 7$  base on bottom

$$x = \frac{\log 7}{\log 2} \approx 2.807$$

21.)  $3^{2x} + 3^{x+1} - 54 = 0 \rightarrow \text{let } u = 3^x$

$$u^2 + 3u - 54 = 0$$

$$(u + 9)(u - 6) = 0 \quad u = -9, 6$$

$$3^x = -9$$

no solution

You can always use ln.....  $\frac{\ln 6}{\ln 3} = 1.631$

$$3^x = 6$$

$x = \log_3 6$  base on bottom

$$x = \frac{\log 6}{\log 3} \approx 1.631$$

22.)  $4^x + 2^{x+1} - 15 = 0 \rightarrow \text{let } u = 2^x$

$$u^2 + 2u - 15 = 0$$

$$(u + 5)(u - 3) = 0 \quad u = -5, 3$$

$$2^x = -5$$

no solution

You can always use ln.....  $\frac{\ln 3}{\ln 2} = 1.585$

$$2^x = 3$$

$x = \log_2 3$  base on bottom

$$x = \frac{\log 3}{\log 2} \approx 1.585$$

23.)  $36^x - 8 \cdot 6^x = -16 \rightarrow \text{let } u = 6^x$

$$u^2 - 8u - 16 = 0$$

$$(u - 4)(u - 4) = 0 \quad u = 4 \quad 6^x = 4$$

$x = \log_6 4$  base on bottom

$$x = \frac{\log 4}{\log 6} \approx 0.774$$

You can always use ln.....  $\frac{\ln 4}{\ln 6} = 0.774$

24.)  $4^x - 10 \cdot 4^{-x} = 3 \quad \text{multiply all by } 4^x \quad *cancels the middle one$

$$(4^x)^2 - 10 \cdot 1 = 3 \cdot 4^x \rightarrow \text{let } u = 4^x$$

$$u^2 - 3u - 10 = 0$$

$$(u - 5)(u + 2) = 0 \quad u = -2$$

$$4^x = 5$$

You can always use ln.....  $\frac{\ln 5}{\ln 4} = 1.161$

$x = \log_4 5$  base on bottom

$$x = \frac{\log 5}{\log 4} \approx 1.161$$

25.)  $(\sqrt[5]{7})^{3-2x} = 7^{x^2}$  \*get the base the same to cancel

$$7^{\frac{1}{5}(3-2x)} = 7^{x^2}$$
 \*set exponents equal and multiply the right side by 5  
 $3-2x = 5x^2$

$$5x^2 + 2x - 3 = 0 \quad \text{slide and divide} \quad x^2 + 2x - 15 = 0$$

$$(x+5)(x-3) = 0 \quad x = -1, \frac{3}{5}$$

26.) The population of a certain country in 1998 was 281 million people. In addition, the population of the country was growing at a rate of 0.8% per year. Assuming that this growth rate continues, the model  $P(t) = 281(1.008)^{t-1998}$  represents the population  $P$  (in millions of people) in year  $t$ .

According to this model, when will the population of the country reach 391 million people?

$$391 = 281(1.008)^{t-1998}$$

$$\frac{391}{281} = (1.008)^{t-1998}$$
 \*take ln of both sides

$$\ln\left(\frac{391}{281}\right) = (t-1998)\ln 1.008 \quad \text{*divide by } (\ln 1.008) \text{ first then add 1998}$$

$$\frac{\ln\left(\frac{391}{281}\right)}{\ln 1.008} + 1998 = t \quad t = 2039$$

Ex.)  $\ln x + \ln(x+2) = 4 \quad \ln x + \ln(x+2) = 4$

$$\ln(x)(x+2) = 4$$

$$x^2 + 2x = e^4$$

$$x^2 + 2x - e^4 = 0$$

$$\frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4 - 4(1)(-e^4)}}{2} = \text{factor out the 4 under radical}$$

$$\frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4(1+e^4)}}{2} \quad \text{take square root of the 4}$$

$$\frac{-2 \pm 2\sqrt{1+e^4}}{2} = -1 \pm \sqrt{1+e^4}$$

$$\text{Ex.) } \ln x + \ln(x+4) = 4 \quad \ln x + \ln(x+4) = 4$$

$$\ln(x)(x+4) = 4$$

$$x^2 + 4x = e^4$$

$$x^2 + 4x - e^4 = 0$$

$$\frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 4(1)(-e^4)}}{2} = \text{ factor out the 4 under radical}$$

$$\frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{4(4+e^4)}}{2} \quad \text{take square root of the 4}$$

$$\frac{-4 \pm 2\sqrt{4+e^4}}{2} = -2 \pm \sqrt{4+e^4}$$