

Logs & Exponentials

1. A group of ten leopards is introduced into a game park. After t years the number of leopards, N , is modelled by $N = 10 e^{0.4t}$.
- (a) How many leopards are there after 2 years?
 - (b) How long will it take for the number of leopards to reach 100? Give your answers to an appropriate degree of accuracy.

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Working:

a. $N = 10 e^{(0.4)(2)} = 22 \text{ leopards}$

b. $100 = 10 e^{.4t}$
 $10 = e^{.4t}$
 $e^{.4t} = 10$
 $\log_e 10 = .4t$
 $t = 5.76 \text{ yrs}$

Answers:

(a) 22 leopards

(b) 5.76 yrs

(Total 4 marks)

2. Solve the following equations.

(a) $\ln(x+2) = 3$.

(b) $10^{2x} = 500$.

a. $\ln(x+2) = 3$

$e^3 = x+2$

$e^3 - 2 = x$

$18.1 = x$

b. $10^{2x} = 500$

$\log_{10} 500 = 2x$

$1.35 = x$

(Total 6 marks)

3. Let $p = \log_{10} x$, $q = \log_{10} y$ and $r = \log_{10} z$.

Write the expression $\log_{10} \left(\frac{x}{y^2 \sqrt{z}} \right)$ in terms of p , q and r .

Working:

$$\begin{aligned} & \log_{10} x - \log_{10} (y^2 z^{1/2}) \\ & \log_{10} x - [\log_{10} y^2 + \log_{10} z^{1/2}] \\ & \log_{10} x - 2 \log_{10} y - \frac{1}{2} \log_{10} z \end{aligned}$$

Answer:

$$p - 2q - \frac{1}{2}r$$

or

$$p - (2q + \frac{1}{2}r)$$

(Total 6 marks)

4. Solve the following equations:

(a) $9^{x-1} = \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{2x}$ (4)

(b) $4^x - 7(2^x) + 12 = 0$ (4)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a. } & (3^2)^{x-1} = (3^{-1})^{2x} \\ & 3^{2x-2} = 3^{-2x} \\ & 2x-2 = -2x \\ & 4x = 2 \\ & x = \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b. } & (2^x)^2 - 7(2^x) + 12 = 0 \\ & W^2 - 7W + 12 = 0 \\ & (W-4)(W-3) = 0 \\ & (2^x-4)(2^x-3) = 0 \\ & 2^x-4=0 \quad 2^x-3=0 \\ & 2^x=4 \quad 2^x=3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \boxed{x=2} \quad \log_2 3 = x \\ & \boxed{1.58 = x} \end{aligned}$$

(Total 8 marks)