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LOGARITHMS PRACTICE

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SIMPLIFYING EXPRESSIONS

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Question 1

Simplify each of the following logarithmic expressions, giving the final answer as a single logarithm.

- a) $\log_2 7 + \log_2 2$
- b) $\log_2 20 - \log_2 4$
- c) $3\log_5 2 + \log_5 8$
- d) $2\log_6 8 - 5\log_6 2$
- e) $\log_{10} 8 + \log_{10} 5 - \log_{10} 0.5$

$$\log_2 14, \log_2 5, \log_5 64, \log_6 2, \log_{10} 80$$

(a) $\log_2 7 + \log_2 2 = \log_2 (7 \times 2) = \log_2 14$
 (b) $\log_2 20 - \log_2 4 = \log_2 \left(\frac{20}{4}\right) = \log_2 5$
 (c) $3\log_5 2 + \log_5 8 = \log_5 2^3 + \log_5 8 = \log_5 8 + \log_5 8 = \log_5 64$
 (d) $2\log_6 8 - 5\log_6 2 = \log_6 8^2 - \log_6 2^5 = \log_6 64 - \log_6 32 = \log_6 \left(\frac{64}{32}\right) = \log_6 2$
 (e) $\log_{10} 8 + \log_{10} 5 - \log_{10} 0.5 = \log_{10} \left(\frac{8 \times 5}{0.5}\right) = \log_{10} 80$

Question 2

Simplify each of the following logarithmic expressions, giving the final answer as a single logarithm.

- a) $\log_3 5 + \log_3 2$
- b) $\log_2 24 - \log_2 8$
- c) $\log_5 3 + 2\log_5 4$
- d) $3\log_4 8 - 3\log_4 6$
- e) $\log_6 2 - (3\log_6 3 + \log_6 0.25)$

$$\boxed{\log_2 10}, \quad \boxed{\log_2 3}, \quad \boxed{\log_5 48}, \quad \boxed{\log_4 \left(\frac{64}{27}\right)}, \quad \boxed{\log_6 \left(\frac{8}{27}\right)}$$

Handwritten solutions for the logarithmic expressions:

a) $\log_3 5 + \log_3 2 = \log_3 (5 \times 2) = \log_3 10$

b) $\log_2 24 - \log_2 8 = \log_2 \left(\frac{24}{8}\right) = \log_2 3$

c) $\log_5 3 + 2\log_5 4 + \log_5 4^2 = \log_5 3 + \log_5 16 = \log_5 (3 \times 16) = \log_5 48$

d) $3\log_4 8 - 3\log_4 6 = \log_4 8^3 - \log_4 6^3 = \log_4 \left(\frac{8^3}{6^3}\right) = \log_4 \left(\frac{512}{216}\right) = \log_4 \left(\frac{64}{27}\right)$

e) $\log_6 2 - (3\log_6 3 + \log_6 0.25) = \log_6 2 - [\log_6 27 + \log_6 \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)] = \log_6 2 - \log_6 \left(\frac{27}{4}\right) = \log_6 \left(\frac{2}{27} \times 4\right) = \log_6 \left(\frac{8}{27}\right)$

Question 3

Simplify each of the following logarithmic expressions, giving the final answer as a number not involving a logarithm.

a) $\log_2 4 - \log_2 0.5$

b) $\log_2 10 - \log_2 5$

c) $2\log_2 4 + \log_2 8$

d) $2\log_{20} 5 - 2\log_{20} 0.25$

e) $3\log_{24} 8 + 3\log_{24} 3$

$\boxed{3}, \boxed{1}, \boxed{7}, \boxed{2}, \boxed{3}$

(a) $\log_2 4 - \log_2 0.5 = \log_2 \left(\frac{4}{0.5}\right) = \log_2 8 = \log_2 2^3 = 3 \log_2 2 = 3 \times 1 = 3$
 (b) $\log_2 10 - \log_2 5 = \log_2 \left(\frac{10}{5}\right) = \log_2 2 = 1$
 (c) $2\log_2 4 + \log_2 8 = \log_2 4^2 + \log_2 8 = \log_2 16 + \log_2 8 = \log_2 (16 \times 8) = \log_2 128$
 $= \log_2 2^7 = 7 \log_2 2 = 7 \times 1 = 7$
 Alternative: $= 2\log_2 2^2 + \log_2 2^3 = 4\log_2 2 + 3\log_2 2 = 4 + 3 = 7$
 (d) $2\log_{20} 5 - 2\log_{20} 0.25 = \log_{20} 5^2 - \log_{20} 0.25^2 = \log_{20} 25 - \log_{20} \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)$
 $= \log_{20} \left(\frac{25}{1/4}\right) = \log_{20} 100 = \log_{20} 20^2 = 2\log_{20} 20 = 2 \times 1 = 2$
 Alternative: $= 2[\log_{20} 5 - \log_{20} 0.25] = 2[\log_{20} \left(\frac{5}{0.25}\right)] = 2\log_{20} 20 = 2 \times 1 = 2$
 (e) $3\log_{24} 8 + 3\log_{24} 3 = \log_{24} 8^3 + \log_{24} 3^3 = \log_{24} 512 + \log_{24} 27$
 $= \log_{24} (512 \times 27) = \log_{24} (13824) = \log_{24} 24^3 = 3\log_{24} 24 = 3 \times 1 = 3$
 Alternative: $= 3[\log_{24} 8 + \log_{24} 3] = 3\log_{24} (8 \times 3) = 3\log_{24} 24 = 3 \times 1 = 3$

Question 4

Simplify each of the following logarithmic expressions, giving the final answer as a number not involving a logarithm.

- a) $\log_2 24 - \log_2 3$
- b) $\log_3 96 - 3\log_3 2 - \log_3 4$
- c) $\log_5 500 + \log_5 \left(\frac{1}{10}\right) - \log_5 \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)$
- d) $2\log_3 54 - \log_3 0.25 - 4\log_3 2$
- e) $8\log_6 2 - (\log_6 4 - 3\log_6 9)$

3, 1, 3, 6, 6

Handwritten solutions for the five logarithmic problems:

- a) $\log_2 24 - \log_2 3 = \log_2 \left(\frac{24}{3}\right) = \log_2 8 = \log_2 2^3 = 3 \times 1 = 3$
- b) $\log_3 96 - 3\log_3 2 - \log_3 4 = \log_3 \frac{96}{2^3 \times 4} = \log_3 \frac{96}{32} = \log_3 3 = 1$
- c) $\log_5 500 + \log_5 \left(\frac{1}{10}\right) - \log_5 \left(\frac{2}{5}\right) = \log_5 \left(\frac{500 \times 1}{10 \times \frac{2}{5}}\right) = \log_5 \frac{500 \times 5}{20} = \log_5 125 = \log_5 5^3 = 3 \times 1 = 3$
- d) $2\log_3 54 - \log_3 0.25 - 4\log_3 2 = \log_3 54^2 - \log_3 \left(\frac{1}{4}\right) - \log_3 16 = \log_3 \frac{54^2 \times 4}{16} = \log_3 \frac{2916 \times 4}{16} = \log_3 729 = \log_3 3^6 = 6 \times 1 = 6$
- e) $8\log_6 2 - (\log_6 4 - 3\log_6 9) = \log_6 2^8 - (\log_6 4 - \log_6 9^3) = \log_6 256 - (\log_6 \frac{4}{729}) = \log_6 \frac{256 \times 729}{4} = \log_6 46656 = \log_6 6^8 = 8 \times 1 = 8$

Question 5

Simplify each of the following logarithmic expressions, giving the final answer as a number not involving a logarithm.

- a) $2\log_{12} 3 + 4\log_{12} 2$
- b) $\log_8 25 + \log_8 10 - 3\log_8 5$
- c) $2\log_{10} 20 - (\log_{10} 5 + \log_{10} 8)$
- d) $4\log_3 2 - \log_3 4 - 2\log_3 \sqrt{3} - \log_3 12$
- e) $4\log_2 \left(\frac{1}{4}\right) - 3\log_{\frac{1}{2}}(32)$

$\boxed{2}$, $\boxed{\frac{1}{3}}$, $\boxed{1}$, $\boxed{-2}$, $\boxed{7}$

Handwritten solutions for Question 5:

a) $2\log_{12} 3 + 4\log_{12} 2 = \log_{12} 3^2 + \log_{12} 2^4 = \log_{12} 9 + \log_{12} 16 = \log_{12} 144$
 $= \log_{12} 12^2 = 2\log_{12} 12 = 2 \times 1 = 2$

b) $\log_8 25 + \log_8 10 - 3\log_8 5 = \log_8 (25 \times 10) - \log_8 (5^3) = \log_8 250 - \log_8 125$
 $= \log_8 \left(\frac{250}{125}\right) = \log_8 2$
 $= \frac{\log_2 2}{\log_2 8} = \frac{1}{3}$

c) $2\log_{10} 20 - (\log_{10} 5 + \log_{10} 8) = \log_{10} 20^2 - \log_{10} (5 \times 8) = \log_{10} 400 - \log_{10} 40$
 $= \log_{10} \left(\frac{400}{40}\right) = \log_{10} 10 = 1$

d) $4\log_3 2 - \log_3 4 - 2\log_3 \sqrt{3} - \log_3 12 = \log_3 2^4 - \log_3 4 - \log_3 3 - \log_3 12$
 $= \log_3 16 - \log_3 4 - \log_3 3 - \log_3 12$
 $= \log_3 \left(\frac{16}{4 \times 3 \times 12}\right) = \log_3 \left(\frac{1}{9}\right)$
 $= \log_3 (3^{-2}) = -2\log_3 3 = -2 \times 1 = -2$

e) $4\log_2 \left(\frac{1}{4}\right) - 3\log_{\frac{1}{2}}(32) = 4\log_2 2^{-2} - 3\log_{\frac{1}{2}}(2^5) = -8\log_2 2 + 15\log_2 2$
 $= -8 \times 1 + 15 \times 1 = -8 + 15 = 7$

Question 6

Simplify each of the following logarithmic expressions, giving the final answer as a number not involving a logarithm.

a) $\log_2 40 - \log_2 5$

b) $\log_6 4 + \log_6 9$

c) $\log_2 \left(\frac{5}{2}\right) + \log_2 \left(\frac{4}{3}\right) - \log_2 \left(\frac{5}{3}\right)$

d) $\frac{1}{3} \log_3 \left(\frac{8}{27}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \log_3 \left(\frac{4}{9}\right)$

e) $\frac{1}{2} \log_2 \left(\frac{4}{9}\right) - 2 \log_2 \left(\frac{9}{4}\right)$

$\boxed{3}$, $\boxed{2}$, $\boxed{1}$, $\boxed{-2}$, $\boxed{5}$

Handwritten solutions for Question 6:

a) $\log_2 40 - \log_2 5 = \log_2 \left(\frac{40}{5}\right) = \log_2 8 = \log_2 2^3 = 3 \log_2 2 = 3 \times 1 = 3$

b) $\log_6 4 + \log_6 9 = \log_6 (4 \times 9) = \log_6 36 = 2 \log_6 6 = 2 \times 1 = 2$

c) $\log_2 \left(\frac{5}{2}\right) + \log_2 \left(\frac{4}{3}\right) - \log_2 \left(\frac{5}{3}\right) = \log_2 \left(\frac{\frac{5}{2} \times \frac{4}{3}}{\frac{5}{3}}\right) = \log_2 \left(\frac{2}{1}\right) = \log_2 2 = 1$

d) $\frac{1}{3} \log_3 \left(\frac{8}{27}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \log_3 \left(\frac{4}{9}\right) = \log_3 \left(\frac{8}{27}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}} + \log_3 \left(\frac{4}{9}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$
 $= \log_3 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) + \log_3 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = 2 \log_3 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = -2 \log_3 \left(\frac{3}{2}\right) = -2 \times 1 = -2$

e) $\frac{1}{2} \log_2 \left(\frac{4}{9}\right) - 2 \log_2 \left(\frac{9}{4}\right) = \frac{1}{2} \log_2 \left(\frac{4}{9}\right) + 2 \log_2 \left(\frac{4}{9}\right) = \frac{5}{2} \log_2 \left(\frac{4}{9}\right) = \frac{5}{2} \log_2 \left(\frac{2^2}{3^2}\right) = \frac{5}{2} \times 2 \log_2 \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = 5$

Question 7

Simplify each of the following logarithmic expressions, giving the final answer as a single fraction.

a) $\log_4 2$

b) $\log_4 8$

c) $\log_4 (2\sqrt{2})$

d) $\log_5 \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{125}} \right)$

$$\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{4}, -\frac{3}{2}$$

Handwritten solutions for Question 7:

- a) $\log_4 2 = \frac{\log_2 2}{\log_2 4} = \frac{1}{2 \log_2 2} = \frac{1}{2 \times 1} = \frac{1}{2}$
- b) $\log_4 8 = \frac{\log_2 8}{\log_2 4} = \frac{\log_2 2^3}{\log_2 2^2} = \frac{3 \log_2 2}{2 \log_2 2} = \frac{3}{2}$
- c) $\log_4 (2\sqrt{2}) = \log_4 (2 \times 2^{1/2}) = \log_4 (2^{3/2}) = \frac{\log_2 2^{3/2}}{\log_2 4} = \frac{3/2 \log_2 2}{2 \log_2 2} = \frac{3/2}{2} = \frac{3}{4}$
- d) $\log_5 \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{125}} \right) = \log_5 (125^{-1/2}) = -\frac{1}{2} \log_5 125 = -\frac{1}{2} \log_5 5^3 = -\frac{3}{2} \log_5 5 = -\frac{3}{2}$

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SOLVING EQUATIONS USING LOGARITHMS

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Question 1

Solve each of the following exponential equations.

a) $3^x = 11$

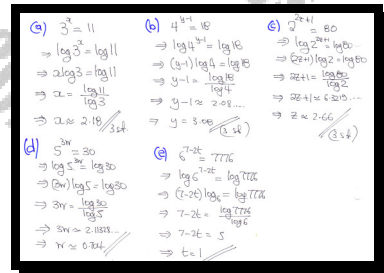
b) $4^{y-1} = 18$

c) $2^{2z+1} = 80$

d) $5^{3w} = 30$

e) $6^{7-2t} = 7776$

$x \approx 2.18$, $y \approx 3.08$, $z \approx 2.66$, $w \approx 0.704$, $t = 1$



Question 2

Solve each of the following exponential equations.

a) $4^x = 200$

b) $2^{3y} = 84$

c) $6^{2-z} = 400$

d) $3^{2w-1} = 4$

e) $12^{3t+4} = 75$

$$x \approx 3.82, \quad y \approx 2.13, \quad z \approx -1.34, \quad w \approx 1.13, \quad t \approx -0.754$$

Handwritten solutions for the five exponential equations:

a) $4^x = 200$
 $\Rightarrow \log 4^x = \log 200$
 $\Rightarrow x \log 4 = \log 200$
 $\Rightarrow x = \frac{\log 200}{\log 4}$
 $\Rightarrow x \approx 3.82$

b) $2^{3y} = 84$
 $\Rightarrow \log 2^{3y} = \log 84$
 $\Rightarrow 3y \log 2 = \log 84$
 $\Rightarrow 3y = \frac{\log 84}{\log 2}$
 $\Rightarrow y \approx 2.13$

c) $6^{2-z} = 400$
 $\Rightarrow \log 6^{2-z} = \log 400$
 $\Rightarrow (2-z) \log 6 = \log 400$
 $\Rightarrow 2-z = \frac{\log 400}{\log 6}$
 $\Rightarrow 2-z \approx 3.92$
 $\Rightarrow -z \approx 1.92$
 $\Rightarrow z \approx -1.92$

d) $3^{2w-1} = 4$
 $\Rightarrow \log 3^{2w-1} = \log 4$
 $\Rightarrow (2w-1) \log 3 = \log 4$
 $\Rightarrow 2w-1 = \frac{\log 4}{\log 3}$
 $\Rightarrow 2w-1 \approx 1.26$
 $\Rightarrow 2w \approx 2.26$
 $\Rightarrow w \approx 1.13$

e) $12^{3t+4} = 75$
 $\Rightarrow \log 12^{3t+4} = \log 75$
 $\Rightarrow (3t+4) \log 12 = \log 75$
 $\Rightarrow 3t+4 = \frac{\log 75}{\log 12}$
 $\Rightarrow 3t+4 \approx 1.75$
 $\Rightarrow 3t \approx -2.25$
 $\Rightarrow t \approx -0.75$

Question 3

Solve each of the following exponential equations.

a) $5 \times 3^x = 200$

b) $5 \times 4^{y-2} = 165$

c) $4 \times 2^{2z+1} = 1000$

d) $5 \times 5^{3w} = 10000$

e) $200(0.7)^{t-1} = 6000$

$$x \approx 3.36, \quad y \approx 4.52, \quad z \approx 3.48, \quad w \approx 1.57, \quad t \approx -8.54$$

Handwritten solutions for the five exponential equations:

(a) $5 \times 3^x = 200$
 $\Rightarrow 3^x = 40$
 $\Rightarrow \log 3^x = \log 40$
 $\Rightarrow x \log 3 = \log 40$
 $\Rightarrow x = \frac{\log 40}{\log 3}$
 $\Rightarrow x \approx 3.36$

(b) $5 \times 4^{y-2} = 165$
 $\Rightarrow 4^{y-2} = 33$
 $\Rightarrow \log 4^{y-2} = \log 33$
 $\Rightarrow (y-2) \log 4 = \log 33$
 $\Rightarrow y-2 = \frac{\log 33}{\log 4}$
 $\Rightarrow y-2 \approx 2.522$
 $\Rightarrow y \approx 4.52$

(c) $4 \times 2^{2z+1} = 1000$
 $\Rightarrow 2^{2z+1} = 250$
 $\Rightarrow \log 2^{2z+1} = \log 250$
 $\Rightarrow (2z+1) \log 2 = \log 250$
 $\Rightarrow 2z+1 = \frac{\log 250}{\log 2}$
 $\Rightarrow 2z+1 = 7.965$
 $\Rightarrow z \approx 3.48$

(d) $5 \times 5^{3w} = 10000$
 $\Rightarrow 5^{3w} = 2000$
 $\Rightarrow \log 5^{3w} = \log 2000$
 $\Rightarrow (3w) \log 5 = \log 2000$
 $\Rightarrow 3w = \frac{\log 2000}{\log 5}$
 $\Rightarrow 3w \approx 4.721$
 $\Rightarrow w \approx 1.57$

(e) $200(0.7)^{t-1} = 6000$
 $\Rightarrow (0.7)^{t-1} = 30$
 $\Rightarrow \log (0.7)^{t-1} = \log 30$
 $\Rightarrow (t-1) \log (0.7) = \log 30$
 $\Rightarrow t-1 = \frac{\log 30}{\log 0.7}$
 $\Rightarrow t-1 \approx -9.538$
 $\Rightarrow t \approx -8.54$

Question 4

Solve each of the following exponential equations.

a) $3 \times \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^x = 0.0042$

b) $\frac{1}{3} \times 2^{y-1} = 84$

c) $5(0.4)^{2-z} = 20$

d) $10 \times 2^w = 8 \times 5^{w+1}$

e) $5 \times 2^{t-1} = 2 \times 5^{2t}$

$x \approx 5.98$, $y \approx 8.98$, $z \approx 3.51$, $w \approx -1.51$, $t \approx 0.0883$

(a) $3 \times \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^x = 0.0042$
 $\Rightarrow \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^x = 0.0014$
 $\Rightarrow \log\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^x = \log(0.0014)$
 $\Rightarrow x \log\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) = \log(0.0014)$
 $\Rightarrow x = \frac{\log(0.0014)}{\log\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)}$
 $\Rightarrow x \approx 5.98$

(b) $\frac{1}{3} \times 2^{y-1} = 84$
 $\Rightarrow 2^{y-1} = 252$
 $\Rightarrow \log 2^{y-1} = \log 252$
 $\Rightarrow (y-1) \log 2 = \log 252$
 $\Rightarrow y-1 = \frac{\log 252}{\log 2}$
 $\Rightarrow y-1 \approx 7.98$
 $\Rightarrow y \approx 8.98$

(c) $5(0.4)^{2-z} = 20$
 $\Rightarrow (0.4)^{2-z} = 4$
 $\Rightarrow \log(0.4)^{2-z} = \log 4$
 $\Rightarrow (2-z) \log(0.4) = \log 4$
 $\Rightarrow 2-z = \frac{\log 4}{\log(0.4)}$
 $\Rightarrow 2-z \approx -1.51$
 $\Rightarrow z \approx 3.51$

(d) $10 \times 2^w = 8 \times 5^{w+1}$
 $\Rightarrow \log(10 \times 2^w) = \log(8 \times 5^{w+1})$
 $\Rightarrow \log 10 + \log 2^w = \log 8 + \log 5^{w+1}$
 $\Rightarrow \log 10 + w \log 2 = \log 8 + (w+1) \log 5$
 $\Rightarrow \log 10 + w \log 2 = \log 8 + w \log 5 + \log 5$
 $\Rightarrow w \log 2 - w \log 5 = \log 8 + \log 5 - \log 10$
 $\Rightarrow w(\log 2 - \log 5) = \log 40 - \log 10$
 $\Rightarrow w = \frac{\log 4}{\log 2 - \log 5}$
 $\Rightarrow w \approx -1.51$

Alternative:
 $10 \times 2^w = 8 \times 5^{w+1}$
 $\Rightarrow 10 \times 2^w = 8 \times 5^w \times 5$
 $\Rightarrow 2^w = 4 \times 5^w$
 $\Rightarrow \frac{2^w}{5^w} = 4$
 $\Rightarrow \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^w = 4$
 $\Rightarrow \log\left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^w = \log 4$
 $\Rightarrow w \log\left(\frac{2}{5}\right) = \log 4$
 $\Rightarrow w = \frac{\log 4}{\log\left(\frac{2}{5}\right)}$
 $\Rightarrow w \approx -1.51$

(e) $5 \times 2^{t-1} = 2 \times 5^{2t}$
 $\Rightarrow \log(5 \times 2^{t-1}) = \log(2 \times 5^{2t})$
 $\Rightarrow \log 5 + \log 2^{t-1} = \log 2 + \log 5^{2t}$
 $\Rightarrow \log 5 + (t-1) \log 2 = \log 2 + 2t \log 5$
 $\Rightarrow \log 5 + t \log 2 - \log 2 = \log 2 + 2t \log 5$
 $\Rightarrow t \log 2 - 2t \log 5 = \log 2 + \log 2 - \log 5$
 $\Rightarrow t(\log 2 - 2 \log 5) = 2 \log 2 - \log 5$
 $\Rightarrow t = \frac{2 \log 2 - \log 5}{\log 2 - 2 \log 5}$
 $\Rightarrow t = \frac{\log 4 - \log 5}{\log 2 - \log 25}$
 $\Rightarrow t = \frac{\log \frac{4}{5}}{\log \frac{2}{25}}$
 $\Rightarrow t = \frac{\log(0.8)}{\log(0.08)}$
 $\Rightarrow t \approx 0.0883$

Question 5

Solve each of the following exponential equations.

a) $2^x = 3^{x+1}$

b) $3^{y-1} = 2^{2y}$

c) $2^{2z+1} = 7^z$

d) $4^{3w} = 3^{2w-1}$

e) $6^{1-t} = 5^{3t+1}$

$x \approx -2.71$, $y \approx -3.82$, $z \approx 1.24$, $w \approx -0.560$, $t \approx 0.0275$

Handwritten solutions for the exponential equations:

a) $2^x = 3^{x+1}$
 $\Rightarrow \log 2^x = \log 3^{x+1}$
 $\Rightarrow x \log 2 = (x+1) \log 3$
 $\Rightarrow x \log 2 = x \log 3 + \log 3$
 $\Rightarrow x \log 2 - x \log 3 = \log 3$
 $\Rightarrow x(\log 2 - \log 3) = \log 3$
 $\Rightarrow x = \frac{\log 3}{\log 2 - \log 3}$
 $\Rightarrow x \approx -2.71$

b) $3^{y-1} = 2^{2y}$
 $\Rightarrow \log 3^{y-1} = \log 2^{2y}$
 $\Rightarrow (y-1) \log 3 = 2y \log 2$
 $\Rightarrow y \log 3 - \log 3 = 2y \log 2$
 $\Rightarrow y \log 3 - 2y \log 2 = \log 3$
 $\Rightarrow y(\log 3 - 2 \log 2) = \log 3$
 $\Rightarrow y = \frac{\log 3}{\log 3 - 2 \log 2}$
 $\Rightarrow y \approx -3.82$

c) $2^{2z+1} = 7^z$
 $\Rightarrow \log 2^{2z+1} = \log 7^z$
 $\Rightarrow (2z+1) \log 2 = z \log 7$
 $\Rightarrow 2z \log 2 + \log 2 = z \log 7$
 $\Rightarrow 2z \log 2 - z \log 7 = -\log 2$
 $\Rightarrow z(2 \log 2 - \log 7) = -\log 2$
 $\Rightarrow z = \frac{-\log 2}{2 \log 2 - \log 7}$
 $\Rightarrow z \approx 1.24$

d) $4^{3w} = 3^{2w-1}$
 $\Rightarrow \log 4^{3w} = \log 3^{2w-1}$
 $\Rightarrow 3w \log 4 = (2w-1) \log 3$
 $\Rightarrow 3w \log 4 = 2w \log 3 - \log 3$
 $\Rightarrow 3w(2 \log 2) - 2w \log 3 = -\log 3$
 $\Rightarrow 6w \log 2 - 2w \log 3 = -\log 3$
 $\Rightarrow w(6 \log 2 - 2 \log 3) = -\log 3$
 $\Rightarrow w = \frac{-\log 3}{3 \log 2 - \log 3}$
 $\Rightarrow w \approx -0.560$

e) $6^{1-t} = 5^{3t+1}$
 $\Rightarrow \log 6^{1-t} = \log 5^{3t+1}$
 $\Rightarrow (1-t) \log 6 = (3t+1) \log 5$
 $\Rightarrow \log 6 - t \log 6 = 3t \log 5 + \log 5$
 $\Rightarrow \log 6 - \log 5 = 3t \log 5 + t \log 6$
 $\Rightarrow \log 6 - \log 5 = t(3 \log 5 + \log 6)$
 $\Rightarrow t = \frac{\log 6 - \log 5}{3 \log 5 + \log 6}$
 $\Rightarrow t \approx 0.0275$

Question 6

Solve each of the following exponential equations.

a) $2^{x+3} = 6^{x-1}$

b) $3^{2y} = 2^{y+1}$

c) $6^z = 2^{2z-1}$

d) $8^{4-3w} = 7^w$

e) $3^{2t+1} = 5^{200}$

$x \approx 3.52$, $y \approx 0.461$, $z \approx -1.71$, $w \approx 1.02$, $t \approx 146$

Handwritten solutions for the exponential equations:

a) $2^{x+3} = 6^{x-1}$
 $\Rightarrow \log 2^{x+3} = \log 6^{x-1}$
 $\Rightarrow (x+3)\log 2 = (x-1)\log 6$
 $\Rightarrow x\log 2 + 3\log 2 = x\log 6 - \log 6$
 $\Rightarrow x\log 2 - x\log 6 = -\log 6 - 3\log 2$
 $\Rightarrow x(\log 2 - \log 6) = -(\log 6 + 3\log 2)$
 $\Rightarrow x = \frac{-\log 6 - 3\log 2}{\log 2 - \log 6} \approx 3.52$

b) $3^{2y} = 2^{y+1}$
 $\Rightarrow \log 3^{2y} = \log 2^{y+1}$
 $\Rightarrow (2y)\log 3 = (y+1)\log 2$
 $\Rightarrow 2y\log 3 = y\log 2 + \log 2$
 $\Rightarrow 2y\log 3 - y\log 2 = \log 2$
 $\Rightarrow y(2\log 3 - \log 2) = \log 2$
 $\Rightarrow y = \frac{\log 2}{2\log 3 - \log 2} \approx 0.461$

c) $6^z = 2^{2z-1}$
 $\Rightarrow \log 6^z = \log 2^{2z-1}$
 $\Rightarrow z\log 6 = (2z-1)\log 2$
 $\Rightarrow z\log 6 = 2z\log 2 - \log 2$
 $\Rightarrow \log 2 = 2z\log 2 - z\log 6$
 $\Rightarrow \log 2 = z(2\log 2 - \log 6)$
 $\Rightarrow z = \frac{\log 2}{2\log 2 - \log 6} \approx -1.71$

d) $8^{4-3w} = 7^w$
 $\Rightarrow \log 8^{4-3w} = \log 7^w$
 $\Rightarrow (4-3w)\log 8 = w\log 7$
 $\Rightarrow 4\log 8 - 3w\log 8 = w\log 7$
 $\Rightarrow 4\log 8 = 3w\log 8 + w\log 7$
 $\Rightarrow 4\log 8 = w(3\log 8 + \log 7)$
 $\Rightarrow w = \frac{4\log 8}{3\log 8 + \log 7} \approx 1.02$

e) $3^{2t+1} = 5^{200}$
 $\Rightarrow \log 3^{2t+1} = \log 5^{200}$
 $\Rightarrow (2t+1)\log 3 = 200\log 5$
 $\Rightarrow 2t\log 3 + \log 3 = 200\log 5$
 $\Rightarrow 2t\log 3 = 200\log 5 - \log 3$
 $\Rightarrow t = \frac{200\log 5 - \log 3}{2\log 3} \approx 146$

Question 7

Solve each of the following equations giving your answer correct to 3 s.f.

a) $2^{2x} - 2^x - 6 = 0$

b) $4^y - 3(2^y) - 10 = 0$

c) $3^{2z+1} - 14 \times (3^z) + 8 = 0$

d) $4^w - 3(2^{w+1}) = 0$

e) $3^{t+1} = 6 + 3^{2t-1}$

$x \approx 1.58$, $y \approx 2.32$, $z \approx 1.26$ or -0.369 , $w \approx 2.58$, $t = 1$ or $t \approx 1.63$

Handwritten solutions for equations a, b, c, and d:

- a)** $2^{2x} - 2^x - 6 = 0$
 $\Rightarrow (2^x)^2 - 2^x - 6 = 0$
 $\Rightarrow a^2 - a - 6 = 0$ ($a = 2^x$)
 $\Rightarrow (a-3)(a+2) = 0$
 $\Rightarrow a = \begin{cases} 3 \\ -2 \end{cases}$
 $\Rightarrow 2^x = \begin{cases} 3 \\ -2 \end{cases}$
 $\Rightarrow \log 2^x = \log 3$
 $\Rightarrow x \log 2 = \log 3$
 $\Rightarrow x = \frac{\log 3}{\log 2} \approx 1.58$
- b)** $4^y - 3(2^y) - 10 = 0$
 $\Rightarrow (2^y)^2 - 3(2^y) - 10 = 0$
 $\Rightarrow (2^y)^2 - 3(2^y) - 10 = 0$
 $\Rightarrow a^2 - 3a - 10 = 0$ ($a = 2^y$)
 $\Rightarrow (a-5)(a+2) = 0$
 $\Rightarrow a = \begin{cases} 5 \\ -2 \end{cases}$
 $\Rightarrow 2^y = \begin{cases} 5 \\ -2 \end{cases}$
 $\Rightarrow \log 2^y = \log 5$
 $\Rightarrow y \log 2 = \log 5$
 $\Rightarrow y = \frac{\log 5}{\log 2} \approx 2.32$
- c)** $3^{2z+1} - 14 \times (3^z) + 8 = 0$
 $\Rightarrow 3 \times 3^{2z} - 14(3^z) + 8 = 0$
 $\Rightarrow 3(3^z)^2 - 14(3^z) + 8 = 0$
 $\Rightarrow 3a^2 - 14a + 8 = 0$ ($a = 3^z$)
 $\Rightarrow (3a-2)(a-4) = 0$
 $\Rightarrow a = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{3} \\ 4 \end{cases}$
 $\Rightarrow 3^z = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{3} \\ 4 \end{cases}$
 $\Rightarrow \log 3^z = \begin{cases} \log \frac{2}{3} \\ \log 4 \end{cases}$
 $\Rightarrow z \log 3 = \begin{cases} \log \frac{2}{3} \\ \log 4 \end{cases}$
 $\Rightarrow z = \begin{cases} \frac{\log \frac{2}{3}}{\log 3} \approx -0.369 \\ \frac{\log 4}{\log 3} \approx 1.26 \end{cases}$
- d)** $4^w - 3(2^{w+1}) = 0$
 $\Rightarrow (2^w)^2 - 3(2^w \times 2) = 0$
 $\Rightarrow (2^w)^2 - 6(2^w) = 0$ ($a = 2^w$)
 $\Rightarrow a^2 - 6a = 0$
 $\Rightarrow a(a-6) = 0$
 $\Rightarrow a = \begin{cases} 6 \\ 0 \end{cases}$
 $\Rightarrow 2^w = \begin{cases} 6 \\ 0 \end{cases}$
 $\Rightarrow \log 2^w = \log 6$
 $\Rightarrow w \log 2 = \log 6$
 $\Rightarrow w = \frac{\log 6}{\log 2} \approx 2.58$

Handwritten solution for equation e:

e) $3^{t+1} = 6 + 3^{2t-1}$
 $\Rightarrow 3 \times 3^t = 6 + 3^t \times 3^{-1}$
 $\Rightarrow 3(3^t) = 6 + (3^t) \times \frac{1}{3}$
 $\Rightarrow 3a = 6 + a \times \frac{1}{3}$ ($a = 3^t$)
 $\Rightarrow 9a = 18 + a^2$
 $\Rightarrow a^2 - 9a + 18 = 0$
 $\Rightarrow (a-6)(a-3) = 0$
 $\Rightarrow a = \begin{cases} 6 \\ 3 \end{cases}$
 $\Rightarrow 3^t = \begin{cases} 6 \\ 3 \end{cases}$
 $\Rightarrow \log 3^t = \begin{cases} \log 6 \\ \log 3 \end{cases}$
 $\Rightarrow t \log 3 = \begin{cases} \log 6 \\ \log 3 \end{cases}$
 $\Rightarrow t = \begin{cases} \frac{\log 6}{\log 3} \approx 1.63 \\ 1 \end{cases}$

Question 8

Solve each of the following equations giving your answer correct to 3 s.f.

a) $7^{2x} - 4(7^x) + 3 = 0$

b) $3^{2y+1} - 11(3^y) - 4 = 0$

c) $2^{2z+1} + 5(2^z) - 12 = 0$

d) $4^w + 2^{w+1} - 15 = 0$

$x \approx 0.565$ or $x = 0$, $y \approx 1.26$, $z \approx 0.585$, $w \approx 1.58$

The image shows handwritten solutions for the four equations. For equation (a), it uses the substitution $y = 7^x$ to form a quadratic $y^2 - 4y + 3 = 0$, which factors to $(y-1)(y-3) = 0$, giving $y = 1$ or $y = 3$. This leads to $7^{2x} = 1$ (so $x = 0$) or $7^{2x} = 3$ (so $x = \frac{\log_7 3}{2} \approx 0.565$). For equation (b), it uses $a = 3^y$ to form $3a^2 - 11a - 4 = 0$, which factors to $(3a+4)(a-1) = 0$. This gives $a = 1$ (so $y = 0$) or $a = -\frac{4}{3}$ (which is rejected). The other solution is $3^y = 4$, so $y = \frac{\log_3 4}{\log_3 3} \approx 1.26$. For equation (c), it uses $a = 2^z$ to form $2a^2 + 5a - 12 = 0$, which factors to $(2a-3)(a+4) = 0$. This gives $a = \frac{3}{2}$ (so $z = \frac{\log_2 3}{\log_2 2} \approx 0.585$) or $a = -4$ (rejected). For equation (d), it uses $a = 2^w$ to form $a^2 + 2a - 15 = 0$, which factors to $(a+5)(a-3) = 0$. This gives $a = 3$ (so $w = \frac{\log_2 3}{\log_2 2} \approx 1.58$) or $a = -5$ (rejected).

Created by T. Madas

SOLVING EQUATIONS INVOLVING LOGARITHMS

Created by T. Madas

Question 1

Solve each of the following logarithmic equations.

a) $\log_2(x+1) - \log_2 x = \log_2 3$

b) $\log_a y = \log_a 3 + \log_a(2y-1)$

c) $\log_3(3z+4) - \log_3 z = 2$

d) $\log_5(4w+3) - \log_5(w-1) = 2$

e) $\log_5(4t+7) - \log_5 t = 2$

$x = \frac{1}{2}$, $y = \frac{3}{5}$, $z = \frac{2}{3}$, $w = \frac{4}{3}$, $t = \frac{1}{3}$

Handwritten solutions for the logarithmic equations:

(a) $\log_2(x+1) - \log_2 x = \log_2 3$
 $\Rightarrow \log_2\left(\frac{x+1}{x}\right) = \log_2 3$
 $\Rightarrow \frac{x+1}{x} = 3$
 $\Rightarrow x+1 = 3x$
 $\Rightarrow 1 = 2x$
 $\Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{2}$

(b) $\log_a y = \log_a 3 + \log_a(2y-1)$
 $\Rightarrow \log_a y = \log_a(3(2y-1))$
 $\Rightarrow y = 6y - 3$
 $\Rightarrow 3 = 5y$
 $\Rightarrow y = \frac{3}{5}$

(c) $\log_3(3z+4) - \log_3 z = 2$
 $\Rightarrow \log_3\left(\frac{3z+4}{z}\right) = 2$
 $\Rightarrow \log_3\left(\frac{3z+4}{z}\right) = \log_3 9$
 $\Rightarrow \frac{3z+4}{z} = 9$
 $\Rightarrow 3z+4 = 9z$
 $\Rightarrow 4 = 6z$
 $\Rightarrow z = \frac{2}{3}$

(d) $\log_5(4w+3) - \log_5(w-1) = 2$
 $\Rightarrow \log_5\left(\frac{4w+3}{w-1}\right) = 2$
 $\Rightarrow \log_5\left(\frac{4w+3}{w-1}\right) = \log_5 25$
 $\Rightarrow \frac{4w+3}{w-1} = 25$
 $\Rightarrow 4w+3 = 25w-25$
 $\Rightarrow 28 = 21w$
 $\Rightarrow w = \frac{4}{3}$

(e) $\log_5(4t+7) - \log_5 t = 2$
 $\Rightarrow \log_5\left(\frac{4t+7}{t}\right) = 2$
 $\Rightarrow \log_5\left(\frac{4t+7}{t}\right) = \log_5 25$
 $\Rightarrow \frac{4t+7}{t} = 25$
 $\Rightarrow 4t+7 = 25t$
 $\Rightarrow 7 = 21t$
 $\Rightarrow t = \frac{1}{3}$

Question 2

Solve each of the following logarithmic equations.

a) $\log_a(2x+7) = \log_a x + 2\log_a 3$

b) $\log_a(3y+10) - \log_a y = 2\log_a 3$

c) $\log_2(2z+1) = 2 + \log_2 z$

d) $\log_3(4w+1) - \log_3(w-1) = 2$

e) $\log_2(3t+4) - \log_2 t = 3$

$x=1$, $y=\frac{5}{3}$, $z=\frac{1}{2}$, $w=2$, $t=\frac{4}{5}$

<p>a) $\log_a(2x+7) = \log_a x + 2\log_a 3$ $\Rightarrow \log_a(2x+7) = \log_a x + \log_a 9$ $\Rightarrow \log_a(2x+7) = \log_a(9x)$ $\Rightarrow 2x+7 = 9x$ $\Rightarrow 7 = 7x$ $\Rightarrow x = 1$</p>	<p>d) $\log_3(4w+1) - \log_3(w-1) = 2$ $\Rightarrow \log_3\left(\frac{4w+1}{w-1}\right) = 2\log_3 3$ $\Rightarrow \log_3\left(\frac{4w+1}{w-1}\right) = \log_3 9$ $\Rightarrow \frac{4w+1}{w-1} = 9$ $\Rightarrow 4w+1 = 9w-9$ $\Rightarrow 10 = 5w$ $\Rightarrow w = 2$</p>
<p>b) $\log_a(3y+10) - \log_a y = 2\log_a 3$ $\Rightarrow \log_a\left(\frac{3y+10}{y}\right) = \log_a 9$ $\Rightarrow \frac{3y+10}{y} = 9$ $\Rightarrow 3y+10 = 9y$ $\Rightarrow 10 = 6y$ $\Rightarrow \frac{5}{3} = y$</p>	<p>e) $\log_2(3t+4) - \log_2 t = 3$ $\Rightarrow \log_2\left(\frac{3t+4}{t}\right) = 3\log_2 2$ $\Rightarrow \log_2\left(\frac{3t+4}{t}\right) = \log_2 8$ $\Rightarrow \frac{3t+4}{t} = 8$ $\Rightarrow 3t+4 = 8t$ $\Rightarrow 4 = 5t$ $\Rightarrow t = \frac{4}{5}$</p>
<p>c) $\log_2(2z+1) = 2 + \log_2 z$ $\Rightarrow \log_2(2z+1) = 2\log_2 2 + \log_2 z$ $\Rightarrow \log_2(2z+1) = \log_2 4 + \log_2 z$ $\Rightarrow \log_2(2z+1) = \log_2(4z)$ $\Rightarrow 2z+1 = 4z$ $\Rightarrow 1 = 2z$ $\Rightarrow z = \frac{1}{2}$</p>	

Question 3

Solve each of the following logarithmic equations.

a) $\log_5(125x) = 4$

b) $\log_5 y - 4\log_5 2 = 2$

c) $\log_2(4z+4) = 6$

d) $\log_2(w^2 + 4w + 3) = 4 + \log_2(w^2 + w)$

e) $\log_3 8 - 3\log_3 t = 3$

$x = 5$, $y = 400$, $z = 15$, $w = \frac{1}{5}, w \neq -1$, $t = \frac{2}{3}$

Handwritten solutions for the logarithmic equations:

a) $\log_5(125x) = 4$
 $\Rightarrow \log_5(125x) = 4\log_5 5$
 $\Rightarrow \log_5(125x) = \log_5 5^4$
 $\Rightarrow \log_5(125x) = \log_5(625)$
 $\Rightarrow 125x = 625$
 $\Rightarrow x = 5$

b) $\log_5 y - 4\log_5 2 = 2$
 $\Rightarrow \log_5 y - \log_5 2^4 = 2\log_5 5$
 $\Rightarrow \log_5 y - \log_5 16 = \log_5 5^2$
 $\Rightarrow \log_5 \left(\frac{y}{16}\right) = \log_5 25$
 $\Rightarrow \frac{y}{16} = 25$
 $\Rightarrow y = 400$

c) $\log_2(4z+4) = 6$
 $\Rightarrow \log_2(4z+4) = 6\log_2 2$
 $\Rightarrow \log_2(4z+4) = \log_2 2^6$
 $\Rightarrow \log_2(4z+4) = \log_2 64$
 $\Rightarrow 4z+4 = 64$
 $\Rightarrow 4z = 60$
 $\Rightarrow z = 15$

d) $\log_2(w^2 + 4w + 3) = 4 + \log_2(w^2 + w)$
 $\Rightarrow \log_2(w^2 + 4w + 3) - \log_2(w^2 + w) = 4$
 $\Rightarrow \log_2 \left(\frac{w^2 + 4w + 3}{w^2 + w}\right) = 4\log_2 2$
 $\Rightarrow \log_2 \left(\frac{(w+1)(w+3)}{w(w+1)}\right) = \log_2 2^4$
 $\Rightarrow \log_2 \left(\frac{w+3}{w}\right) = \log_2 16$
 $\Rightarrow \frac{w+3}{w} = 16$
 $\Rightarrow w+3 = 16w$
 $\Rightarrow 3 = 15w$
 $\Rightarrow w = \frac{1}{5}$

e) $\log_3 8 - 3\log_3 t = 3$
 $\Rightarrow \log_3 8 - \log_3 t^3 = 3\log_3 3$
 $\Rightarrow \log_3 \left(\frac{8}{t^3}\right) = \log_3 27$
 $\Rightarrow \log_3 \left(\frac{8}{t^3}\right) = \log_3 3^3$
 $\Rightarrow \frac{8}{t^3} = 27$
 $\Rightarrow \frac{8}{27} = t^3$
 $\Rightarrow t = \frac{2}{3}$