

Solutions

Name: _____

Work in groups to answer as many problems as you can. Ask questions if you get stuck. The numbers used on this worksheet may require a calculator. Keep in mind that numbers you will have on exams will be nice enough to do without a calculator.

1. Solve the following exponential equations. Simplify your answers, leaving them in terms of suitable logarithms and/or numbers.

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

$$\begin{aligned} 1-x &= 2-3x \\ 2x &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

Answer: $x = \frac{1}{2}$

(e) $3 = 14^{9-2x}$

$$\begin{aligned} \log_{14}(3) &= 9-2x \\ 2x &= 9 - \log_{14}(3) \end{aligned}$$

Answer: $x = \frac{9 - \log_{14}(3)}{2}$

(b) $9^{x^2} = 9^{12-4x}$

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 &= 12-4x \\ x^2 + 4x - 12 &= 0 \\ (x+6)(x-2) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Answer: $x = -6 \text{ or } x = 2$

(f) $8^{4x+1} = 1 = 8^0$

$$\begin{aligned} 4x+1 &= 0 \\ 4x &= -1 \end{aligned}$$

Answer: $x = -\frac{1}{4}$

(c) $6^{x^2-3x} = 6^{20+5x}$

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 - 3x &= 20 + 5x \\ x^2 - 8x - 20 &= 0 \\ (x+2)(x-10) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Answer: $x = -2 \text{ or } x = 10$

(g) $10^{7x} = 3$

$$7x = \log_{10}(3)$$

Answer: $x = \frac{1}{7} \log_{10}(3)$

(d) $9^x = 27^{2+x}$

$$\begin{aligned} 3^{2x} &= 3^{3(2+x)} \\ 2x &= 3(2+x) \\ 2x &= 6 + 3x \\ -6 &= x \end{aligned}$$

Answer: $x = -6$

(h) $6^{2+x} = 8^{8+2x}$

$$\begin{aligned} 2+x &= (8+2x)\log_6(8) \\ x - 2x\log_6(8) &= 8\log_6(8) - 2 \\ x(1 - 2\log_6(8)) &= 8\log_6(8) - 2 \\ x &= \frac{8\log_6(8) - 2}{1 - 2\log_6(8)} \end{aligned}$$

Answer: $x = \frac{8\log_6(8) - 2}{1 - 2\log_6(8)}$

2. Given $f(x)$ and $g(x)$, find both $f(g(x))$ and $g(f(x))$.

(a) $f(x) = 2x + 9, g(x) = 2x - 1$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= 2g(x) + 9 \\ &= 2(2x - 1) + 9 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(f(x)) &= 2f(x) - 1 \\ &= 2(2x + 9) - 1 \end{aligned}$$

(d) $f(x) = 9x^2 + 10x + 12, g(x) = 2$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= 9g(x)^2 + 10g(x) + 12 \\ &= 9 \cdot 2^2 + 10 \cdot 2 + 12 \end{aligned}$$

$$g(f(x)) = 2$$

Answer: $4x + 7$

Answer: $4x + 17$

Answer: 68

Answer: 2

(b) $f(x) = x^2 + 1, g(x) = 6 - 4x$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= g(x)^2 + 1 \\ &= (6 - 4x)^2 + 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(f(x)) &= 6 - 4f(x) \\ &= 6 - 4(x^2 + 1) \end{aligned}$$

(e) $f(x) = x + 1, g(x) = \frac{2}{x-3}$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= g(x) + 1 = \frac{2}{x-3} + 1 \\ g(f(x)) &= \frac{2}{f(x)-3} = \frac{2}{(x+1)-3} \end{aligned}$$

Answer: $16x^2 - 48x + 37$

Answer: $2 - 4x^2$

Answer: $\frac{x-1}{x-3}$

Answer: $\frac{2}{x-2}$

(c) $f(x) = 2x^2 + 9, g(x) = 1 - 2x - x^2$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= 2g(x)^2 + 9 \\ &= 2(1 - 2x - x^2)^2 + 9 \\ &= 2 \left[1 - 2x - x^2 - 2x^2 + 4x^2 + 2x^3 - x^2 + 2x^3 + x^4 \right] + 9 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(f(x)) &= 1 - 2f(x) - f(x)^2 \\ &= 1 - 2(2x^2 + 9) - (2x^2 + 9)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Answer: $11 - 8x + 4x^2 + 8x^3 + 2x^4$

Answer: $-4x^2 - 40x^2 - 98$

(f) $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}x - 3, g(x) = 2x + 6$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= \frac{1}{2}g(x) - 3 \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(2x + 6) - 3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(f(x)) &= 2f(x) + 6 \\ &= 2(\frac{1}{2}x - 3) + 6 \end{aligned}$$

Answer: x

Answer: x

3. Given $f(x)$ and $g(x)$, find both $f(g(x))$ and $g(f(x))$.

(a) $f(x) = 10 \cdot 4^x$, $g(x) = \log_4\left(\frac{x}{10}\right)$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= 10 \cdot 4^{g(x)} \\ &= 10 \cdot 4^{\log_4\left(\frac{x}{10}\right)} \\ &= 10 \cdot \frac{x}{10} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(f(x)) &= \log_4\left(\frac{f(x)}{10}\right) \\ &= \log_4(4^x) \end{aligned}$$

Answer: x

Answer: x

(b) $f(x) = 2x - 4$, $g(x) = 10^x$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= 2g(x) - 4 \\ &= 2 \cdot 10^x - 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(f(x)) &= 10^{f(x)} \\ &= 10^{2x-4} \end{aligned}$$

Answer: $\frac{2 \cdot 10^x - 4}{10^{2x-4}}$

Answer: 10^{2x-4}

(c) $f(x) = e^x$, $g(x) = x + 3$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= e^{g(x)} \\ &= e^{3+x} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(f(x)) &= f(x) + 3 \\ &= e^x + 3 \end{aligned}$$

Answer: e^{3+x}

Answer: $e^x + 3$

(d) $f(x) = 3x + 5$, $g(x) = \ln(x)$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= 3g(x) + 5 \\ &= 3\ln(x) + 5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(f(x)) &= \ln(f(x)) \\ &= \ln(3x+5) \end{aligned}$$

Answer: $3\ln(x) + 5$

Answer: $\ln(3x+5)$

(e) $f(x) = \log_2(x)$, $g(x) = x^4 + 1$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= \log_2(g(x)) \\ &= \log_2(x^4 + 1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(f(x)) &= f(x)^4 + 1 \\ &= \log_2(x)^2 + 1 \end{aligned}$$

Answer: $\log_2(x^4 + 1)$

Answer: $\log_2(x)^2 + 1$

(f) $f(x) = \ln(x^2 - 1)$, $g(x) = e^{2x}$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= \ln(f(x)^2 - 1) \\ &= \ln(e^{2x} - 1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(f(x)) &= e^{2f(x)} \\ &= e^{2\ln(x^2-1)} \\ &= e^{\ln((x^2-1)^2)} \end{aligned}$$

Answer: $\ln(e^{2x} - 1)$

Answer: $(x^2-1)^2$

4. Given $f(x)$ and $g(x)$, determine if they are inverse of each other.

(a) $f(x) = \frac{3-x}{4}$, $g(x) = 3 - 4x$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= \frac{3-g(x)}{4} \\ &= \frac{3-(3-4x)}{4} = x \end{aligned}$$

$$g(f(x)) = 3 - 4f(x) = 3 - 4 \cdot \frac{3-x}{4} = x$$

Answer: Yes

(c) $f(x) = \frac{1+x}{x}$, $g(x) = \frac{x}{1+x}$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= \frac{1+g(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{1+\frac{x}{1+x}}{\frac{x}{1+x}} \\ &= \frac{1+x+x}{1+x} = \frac{1+2x}{x} \end{aligned}$$

Answer: No

(b) $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-4}$, $g(x) = x - 4$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= \frac{1}{g(x)-4} \\ &= \frac{1}{x-4-4} = \frac{1}{x-8} \end{aligned}$$

Answer: No

(f) $f(x) = \log_5(x^2)$, $g(x) = 5^{x/2}$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= \log_5(g(x)^2) = \log_5(5^x) = x \\ g(f(x)) &= 5^{f(x)/2} = 5^{\frac{1}{2}\log_5(x^2)} = 5^{\log_5(x^2)} = x \end{aligned}$$

Answer: Yes

(c) $f(x) = x^3 + 1$, $g(x) = \sqrt[3]{x-1}$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= g(x)^3 + 1 \\ &= (3\sqrt[3]{x-1})^3 + 1 \\ &= x-1 + 1 = x \end{aligned}$$

$$g(f(x)) = \sqrt[3]{f(x)-1} = \sqrt[3]{x^3+1-1} = x$$

Answer: Yes

(g) $f(x) = \ln(x-3)$, $g(x) = e^x + 3$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= \ln(g(x)-3) = \ln(e^x+3-3) \\ &= \ln(e^x) = x \\ g(f(x)) &= e^{f(x)} + 3 = e^{\ln(x-3)} + 3 \\ &= x-3+3 = x \end{aligned}$$

Answer: Yes

(d) $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-1}$, $g(x) = \frac{1}{x} + 1$

$$f(g(x)) = \frac{1}{g(x)-1} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{x}+1-1} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{x}} = x$$

$$g(f(x)) = \frac{1}{f(x)} + 1 = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{x-1}} + 1 = x-1+1 = x$$

Answer: Yes

(h) $f(x) = \frac{1}{3} \ln(2x)$, $g(x) = 3e^x$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= \frac{1}{3} \ln(2g(x)) \\ &= \frac{1}{3} \ln(6e^x) \end{aligned}$$

Answer: No

5. Given $f(x)$, find $f^{-1}(x)$.

(a) $f(x) = 4x + 7$

$$\begin{aligned}y &= 4x + 7 \\y - 7 &= 4x \\ \frac{y-7}{4} &= x\end{aligned}$$

Answer: $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x-7}{4}$

(e) $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x+2}$

$$\begin{aligned}y &= \sqrt[3]{x+2} \\y^3 &= x+2 \\y^3 - 2 &= x\end{aligned}$$

Answer: $f^{-1}(x) = x^3 - 2$

(b) $f(x) = 3 - 5x$

$$\begin{aligned}y &= 3 - 5x \\5x &= 3 - y \\x &= \frac{3-y}{5}\end{aligned}$$

Answer: $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{3-x}{5}$

(f) $f(x) = 12x - 2$

$$\begin{aligned}y &= 12x - 2 \\y + 2 &= 12x \\ \frac{y+2}{12} &= x\end{aligned}$$

Answer: $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x+2}{12}$

(c) $f(x) = \frac{x}{2}$

$$\begin{aligned}y &= \frac{x}{2} \\2y &= x\end{aligned}$$

Answer: $f^{-1}(x) = 2x$

(g) $f(x) = \frac{1+x}{3-x}$

$$\begin{aligned}y &= \frac{1+x}{3-x} \\(3-x)y &= 1+x \\3y - xy &= 1+x \\3y - 1 &= xc + xy \\3y - 1 &= x(1+y)\end{aligned}$$

Answer: $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{3x-1}{1+x}$

(d) $f(x) = x^3 - 4$

$$\begin{aligned}y &= x^3 - 4 \\y + 4 &= x^3 \\\sqrt[3]{y+4} &= x\end{aligned}$$

Answer: $f^{-1}(x) = (y+4)^{1/3}$

(h) $f(x) = \frac{x-2}{x+2}$

$$\begin{aligned}y &= \frac{xc-2}{xc+2} \\y(x+2) &= xc - 2 \\xy + 2y &= xc - 2 \\2+2y &= xc - xy \\2+2y &= xc(1-y)\end{aligned}$$

Answer: $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{2+2x}{1-x}$

6. Given $f(x)$, find $f^{-1}(x)$.

$$(a) f(x) = \log_2(x+1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} y &= \log_2(x+1) \\ 2^y &= x+1 \\ 2^y - 1 &= x \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Answer: } f^{-1}(x) = 2^x - 1$$

$$(e) f(x) = \ln(x-3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} y &= \ln(x-3) \\ e^y &= x-3 \\ e^y + 3 &= x \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Answer: } f^{-1}(x) = e^x + 3$$

$$(b) f(x) = 10^{3x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y &= 10^{3x} \\ \log_{10}(y) &= 3x \\ \frac{1}{3} \log_{10}(y) &= x \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Answer: } f^{-1}(x) = \log_{10}(\sqrt[3]{y})$$

$$(f) f(x) = 2^{x^3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y &= 2^{x^3} \\ \log_2(y) &= x^3 \\ \sqrt[3]{\log_2(y)} &= x \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Answer: } f^{-1}(x) = \log_2(y)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$(c) f(x) = e^{0.5x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y &= e^{\frac{1}{2}x} \\ \ln(y) &= \frac{1}{2}x \\ 2\ln(y) &= x \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Answer: } f^{-1}(x) = \ln(x^2)$$

$$(g) f(x) = \log_4(x^3 - 1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} y &= \log_4(x^3 - 1) \\ 4^y &= x^3 - 1 \\ 4^y + 1 &= x^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{4^y + 1} = x \quad \text{Answer: } f^{-1}(x) = (4^x + 1)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$(d) f(x) = \log_3(2x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} y &= \log_3(2x) \\ 3^y &= 2x \\ \frac{1}{2}3^y &= x \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Answer: } f^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{2}3^x$$

$$(h) f(x) = e^{1 + \sqrt[3]{3x+4}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y &= e^{1 + \sqrt[3]{3x+4}} \\ \ln(y) &= 1 + \sqrt[3]{3x+4} \\ \ln(y) - 1 &= (3x+4)^{\frac{1}{3}} \\ (\ln(y) - 1)^3 &= 3x+4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Answer: } f^{-1}(x) = \frac{(\ln(x) - 1)^3 - 4}{3}$$

$$(\ln(y) - 1)^3 - 4 = 3x$$

$$\frac{(\ln(y) - 1)^3 - 4}{3} = x$$