

Unit 2 Practice Problems

1. A culture of bacteria grows by 40% each hour. Write an exponential growth model for the population $P(t)$ after t hours if the initial population is 500 .

$$P(t) = P_0 (1+r)^t \quad P(t) = 500 (1+0.40)^t \rightarrow P(t) = 500 (1.4)^t$$

2. Describe how the graph of $y = \log_{10} x$ is transformed to obtain $y = 2 \log_{10} (x-4) + 1$. List shift, stretch/compression, and reflection if any.

$x-4 \rightarrow$ horizontal shift, right 4 units vertical stretch by 2
 $+1 \rightarrow$ vertical shift, up 1

3. Solve for x : $\log_2 (x+3) = 4$

$$\log_a (b) = c \iff a^c = b$$

$$2^4 = x+3 \quad \begin{array}{l} 16 = x+3 \\ -3 \quad -3 \\ \hline x = 13 \end{array}$$

4. A radioactive substance has a half-life of 8 years. If the initial mass is 100 grams, write the decay model and find the mass after 20 years.

$$A(t) = A_0 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{t/h}$$

$$A(t) = 100 (0.5)^{t/8}$$

$$A(20) = 100 (0.5)^{20/8} \quad 20/8 = 2.5$$

$$A(20) = 100 (0.5)^{2.5} \quad A(20) \approx 17.68 \text{ grams}$$

$$A(20) = 100 \cdot (0.1767767)$$

5. Rewrite the exponential equation $y = 3^{x+2}$ in logarithmic form.

$$\log_a (b) = c \iff a^c = b$$

$$\log_3 y = x+2$$