

Exponents and Logarithms

Key Concepts

In this session we will focus on summarising what you need to know about:

- Surds
- Simplification of exponents
- Solving exponential equations
- Simplifying using log laws
- Solving exponential equations that require logarithms.

Surd Laws

$$\sqrt[n]{a \cdot b} = \sqrt[n]{a} \cdot \sqrt[n]{b}$$

$$\sqrt[n]{\frac{a}{b}} = \frac{\sqrt[n]{a}}{\sqrt[n]{b}}$$

X-sample Questions

1. Simplify without the use of a calculator, showing all working

$$\frac{\sqrt{50} + \sqrt{36} - \sqrt{8}}{6\sqrt{2}}$$

2. Simplify

$$\frac{2^{x-1} \cdot 3^{x+1}}{6^{x+2}}$$

- 3.

Simplify $\frac{100^{-\frac{n}{4}} \cdot 15^{\frac{n}{2}+2} \cdot 24^{\frac{n}{6}}}{9^{\frac{n}{3}+1}}$

- 4.

Simplify $\frac{3 \cdot 2^{x+1}}{2^x + 2^{x-1}}$

5. Simplify

$$\sqrt[n]{\frac{10^n + 2^{n+2}}{5^{2n} + 4 \cdot 5^n}} \text{ where } n \neq 0$$

- 6.

Simplify $\frac{m - m^{-1}}{\left(m^{\frac{1}{2}} + m^{-\frac{1}{2}}\right)^2}$

7. Solve for x

$$4^{2x} = 8^{3x-5}$$

8. Solve for x

$$2^{x-1} = 2^4 + 3 \cdot 4^2 + 3 \cdot 8^2$$

9. Solve for x $2^x - 2^{x-1} = 8$

10. Simplify without calculators : $\log_2 12 + \log_2 5 - \log_2 7,5$

11. Simplify without a calculator: $\log_3 27 - \log_2 8 - \log 5 - \log 2$
12. Simplify without using a calculator $\frac{\log 27 - \log 125}{\log 9 - \log 25}$
13. Simplify without using a calculator $\frac{\log 6 - \log 2}{\log 9(2\log 5 + \log 4)}$
14. Simplify without using a calculator $\log_p 12 + 2\log_p 5 - \log_p 3 - 2\log_p 10$
15. Solve for x
- a) $3^x = 5$
- b) $2.3^x = 10$

X-exercise

1. Simplify without the use of a calculator, showing all working $\frac{\sqrt{75} + \sqrt{12}}{\sqrt{48}}$
2. $\frac{2^{x-1} \cdot 3^{x+1}}{6^{x+2}}$
3. $\frac{3 \cdot 2^{x+1}}{2^x + 2^{x-1}}$
4. Solve for x if $3^{2x-1} = 27^{2x-1}$
5. Solve for x if $2.3^x = 10$
6. Simplify fully $\frac{\log 6 - \log 2}{\log 9(2\log 5 + \log 4)}$
7. Simplify: $2\log_x 3 + \log_x 4 - \log_x 6$

Answers

1. $\frac{7}{4}$
2. $\frac{1}{216}$
3. 4
4. $x = \frac{1}{2}$
5. $x=1,465$
6. $\frac{1}{4}$
7. $\log_x 6$

