DATE: _______________

Unit 3 (Chapter 3): Exponential, Logistic, & Logarithmic Functions **Pre-Calculus**

3.4 Properties of Logarithmic Functions

Target 3C: Understand properties of common and natural logarithmic functions

Target 3E: Know and apply product, quotient and power rules of logarithmic functions

SAT Connection

Passport to Advanced Math

8. Solve a system of one linear equation and one quadratic equation.

Example: If $\dfrac{x^{a^2}}{x^{b^2}} = x^{16}$, $x > 1$, and $a + b = 2$, what is the value

of $a - b$?

A) 8

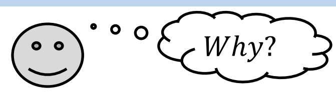
B) 14

C) 16

D) 18

Solution

Properties of Logs/Natural Logs



Product Property: $\log_b(xy) =$

$\ln(xy) =$

Quotient Property: $\log_b\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) =$

$\ln\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) =$

Power Property: $\log_b x^c =$

$\ln x^c =$

Change of Base: $\log_b x = \dfrac{\log_a}{\log_a}$

$\log_b x = \dfrac{\ln}{\ln}$

Examples

Using the properties of logarithms, expand the logarithmic expression.

1. $\ln 3x$

2. $\log\left(\frac{4x}{y^2}\right)$

3. $\log_2(25x^3)$

4. $\log \sqrt[3]{\frac{x^2}{y}}$

Using the properties of logarithms, condense the logarithms into a single expression.

5. $\log x + 3\log y$

6. $\ln 4x - \ln 2y$

7. $2\left[\log x - \frac{1}{6}\log y + 4\log(a-1)\right]$

Write the expression as a natural logarithm.

8. $\log_5 x$

9. $\log_4(2x + y)$

More Practice

Properties of Logarthims

https://www.khanacademy.org/math/algebra2/exponential-and-logarithmic-functions/properties-of-logarithms/v/introduction-to-logarithm-properties
http://www.algebralab.org/lessons/lesson.aspx?file=algebra_logarithmproperties.xml
http://www.regentsprep.org/regents/math/algtrig/ate9/LogPrac.htm
http://www.mathguide.com/lessons2/Logs.html
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SxF44olWTyk
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eLapHtvQbFo

Homework Assignment

p.289 #1-21odd,29,31,52,53

SAT Connection
Solution

Choice A is correct. Since the numerator and denominator of $\frac{x^{a^2}}{x^{b^2}}$ have a common base, it follows by the laws of exponents that this expression can be rewritten as $x^{a^2 - b^2}$. Thus, the equation $\frac{x^{a^2}}{x^{b^2}} = 16$ can be rewritten as $x^{a^2 - b^2} = x^{16}$. Because the equivalent expressions have the common base x, and $x > 1$, it follows that the exponents of the two expressions must also be equivalent. Hence, the equation $a^2 - b^2 = 16$ must be true. The left-hand side of this new equation is a difference of squares, and so it can be factored: $(a + b)(a - b) = 16$. It is given that $(a + b) = 2$; substituting 2 for the factor $(a + b)$ gives $2(a - b) = 16$. Finally, dividing both sides of $2(a - b) = 16$ by 2 gives $a - b = 8$.

Choices B, C, and D are incorrect and may result from errors in applying the laws of exponents or errors in solving the equation $a^2 - b^2 = 16$.