

Quiz 1. *True/False:* There must be a solution to the equation $x(e^{2x} - 2) = 15$.

Solution. The statement is *true*. The equation $x(e^{2x} - 2) = 15$ has a solution if and only if the equation $x(e^{2x} - 2) - 15 = 0$ has a solution. But the equation $x(e^{2x} - 2) - 15 = 0$ has a solution if and only if the function $f(x) = x(e^{2x} - 2) - 15$ has a root. The function $f(x)$ is a continuous function—being the composition, sum/difference, and product of continuous functions. We know that $f(0) = 0(1 - 2) - 15 = -15 < 0$. Furthermore, there are clearly values for which $f(x)$ is positive because $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \infty$. But then by the Intermediate Value Theorem, there must be a value $x_0 \in [-15, \infty)$ such that $f(x_0) = 0$. This proves that $f(x)$ has a root; equivalently, that $x(e^{2x} - 2) = 15$ has a solution.