

Here is an alternate explanation with more details.

a)

x	$f(x)$
0	7
1	13
2	25
3	49
4	97

The first differences form a geometric sequence where the general term is $g_n = 6(2)^n$ where $g_0 = 6$. If the output values of a function change proportionally, then the function is exponential.

2.3.A.4 If the values of the additive transformation function $f(x) + k$ of any function f are proportional over equal-length input-value intervals, then f is exponential.

$$f(x) = 6(2)^x + 1$$