

# Chapter 3

## Chapter 3

### Indices and Logarithms

#### OBJECTIVES

At the end of this chapter, students should be able to:

1. show the basic laws of logarithms.
2. state and prove the laws of logarithms.
3. apply the laws in solving problems.
4. revise the use of logarithm tables for calculations.

#### I. Revision on the Basic Rules of Indices

##### (I) Positive Integer Indices

If  $x$  and  $y$  are positive integers and  $a$  and  $b$  are non-zero numbers,

- (a)  $a^x \times a^y = a^{x+y}$
- (b)  $a^x \div a^y = a^{x-y}$
- (c)  $a^x \times a^y \div a^z = a^{x+y-z}$
- (d)  $(a^x)^y = a^{xy}$
- (e)  $a^x \times b^x \times c^x = (abc)^x$

##### (II) Zero, Negative and Fractional Indices

$$a^x \div a^x = a^{x-x} = a^0$$

$$\text{but } a^x \div a^x = 1$$

$$\therefore a^0 = 1$$

$$\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^{-x} = \frac{1}{\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^x} = \left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^x$$

$$a^{\frac{x}{y}} \begin{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{Power}} \\ \xrightarrow{\text{Index}} \\ \xrightarrow{\text{Root}} \\ \xrightarrow{\text{Base}} \end{cases} \therefore a^{\frac{x}{y}} = (\sqrt[y]{a})^x \text{ or } a^{\frac{x}{y}} = (a)^{\frac{1}{y}}^x$$

For example,

$$16^{\frac{3}{4}} = (\sqrt[4]{16})^3 = 2^3 = 2 \times 2 \times 2 = 8$$

Aliter,  $16^{\frac{3}{4}} = (2^4)^{\frac{3}{4}} = 2^{4 \times \frac{3}{4}} = 2^3 = 8$

### (III) Equations Involving Indices

Note that if  $a^x = a^y$

$$\Rightarrow x = y$$

#### Worked Example 1

If  $27^{x+1} = 9^{2x+1}$ , find the value of  $x$ .

#### SOLUTION

$$\begin{aligned} 3^{3(x+1)} &= 3^{2(2x+1)} \\ \Rightarrow 3^{3x+3} &= 3^{4x+2} \\ \Rightarrow 3x+3 &= 4x+2 \\ \Rightarrow 3x-4x &= 2-3 \\ \Rightarrow -x &= -1 \\ \therefore x &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

#### Worked Example 2

If  $\frac{9^{x+1}}{3^{-x}} = \frac{27^{3x-1}}{81^{x-1}}$ , find  $x$ .

#### SOLUTION

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{3^{2(x+1)}}{3^{-x}} &= \frac{3^{3(3x-1)}}{3^{4(x-1)}} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{3^{2(x+1)}}{3^{-x}} &= \frac{3^{9x-1}}{3^{4x-1}} \\ \Rightarrow 3^{2x+2-(-x)} &= 3^{(9x-1)-(4x-4)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\Rightarrow 3^{2x+2+x} = 3^{9x-3-4x-4} \\
&\Rightarrow 3^{3x+2} = 3^{5x+1} \\
&\Rightarrow 3x+2 = 5x+1 \quad (\text{equating the indices}) \\
&\Rightarrow 3x - 5x = 1 - 2 \\
&\Rightarrow -2x = -1 \\
&\Rightarrow 2x = 1 \\
&\therefore x = \frac{1}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

Exponential equations can also be reduced to quadratic form as shown in Worked Examples 3 and 4.

### Worked Example 3

Solve the equation  $3^{2x} - 8(3^x) - 9 = 0$ .

#### SOLUTION

$$\begin{aligned}
&3^{2x} - 8(3^x) - 9 = 0 \\
&\Rightarrow (3^x)^2 - 8(3^x) - 9 = 0
\end{aligned}$$

Now, let  $P = 3^x$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\Rightarrow P^2 - 8P - 9 = 0 \\
&\Rightarrow (P+1)(P-9) = 0 \\
&\therefore P = -1 \text{ or } P = 9
\end{aligned}$$

But  $3x = -1$  is impossible

$$\begin{aligned}
&\text{and } 3^x = 9 \\
&3x = 3^2 \\
&\therefore x = 2
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the only solution is 2.

### Worked Example 4

Solve the equation  $7^{2x+1} - 50(7^x) + 7 = 0$

#### SOLUTION

$$\begin{aligned}
&7^{2x+1} - 50(7^x) + 7 = 0 \\
&\Rightarrow (7^x)^2 \times 7 - 50(7^x) + 7 = 0
\end{aligned}$$

Now, let  $P = 7^x$

$$\Rightarrow 7P^2 - 50P + 7 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (7P - 1)(P - 7) = 0$$

$$\therefore 7P - 1 = 0 \text{ or } P - 7 = 0$$

$$7P = 1 \quad P = 7$$

$$P = \frac{1}{7}$$

$$\text{Then, } 7^x = \frac{1}{7} \text{ or } 7^x = 7^1$$

$$7^x = 7^{-1} \text{ or } x = 1$$

$$\therefore x = -1 \text{ or } x = 1$$

### Exercise 1

1. Simplify  $(27^{\frac{1}{3}})^2$ .
2. Given that  $3^y = 243$ . Find the value of  $y$ .
3. Simplify  $\frac{9^{-\frac{1}{4}}}{27^{\frac{1}{3}}}$ .
4. Simplify  $125^{-\frac{1}{3}} \times 49^{-\frac{1}{2}} \times 10^0$ .
5. If  $3^{2x} = 27$ , find the value of  $x$ .
6. If  $9^{2x+1} = \frac{81^{x-2}}{3^x}$ , find the value of  $x$ .
7. Simplify  $\frac{4^{-\frac{1}{2}} \times 16^{\frac{3}{4}}}{4^{\frac{1}{2}}}$ .
8. Given that  $3 \times 9^{1+x} = 27^{-x}$ . Find  $x$ .
9. Simplify  $56x^{-4} \div 14x^{-8}$ .
10. Simplify  $\left(\frac{4}{25}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \times 2^4 \div \left(\frac{15}{2}\right)^{-2}$ .
11. Simplify  $\left(\frac{16}{81}\right)^{-\frac{3}{4}} \times \sqrt{\frac{100}{81}}$ .
12. Simplify  $\frac{1}{3^{5n}} \times 9^{n+1} \times 27^{n-1}$ .
13. Solve  $\frac{1}{81^{(x-2)}} = 27^{(1+x)}$ .
14. Evaluate  $\left(\frac{1}{343}\right)^{-\frac{1}{3}} + (64)^{\frac{1}{3}} - \left(\frac{4}{9}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ .  
(NECO)
15. Given that  $9^{2x-1} \times 3^{3x+1} = 27^{x+3}$ . Find the value of  $x$ .
16. Given that  $\frac{8^{x+1}}{2^{-x}} = \frac{16^{2x-1}}{4^{x+1}}$ . Find the value of  $x$ .

17. If  $\frac{125^{x-1}}{25^{3-x}} = \frac{5^{5x-1}}{25^{2x-1}}$ , find the value of  $x$ .
18.  $3^{2x} + 6(3^x) - 27 = 0$
19.  $3^{2x+1} - 12(3^x) + 9 = 0$
20.  $3^{2y} + 3^{y+1} = 18$

## II. Logarithms

### (I) Definition of Logarithm

Logarithm of the number ' $a$ ' to the base ' $b$ ', written as  $\log_b a$ , is the index to which ' $b$ ' is raised to obtain ' $a$ '. Symbolically, if  $\log_b a = c$  (say), it implies  $b^c = a$  (' $b$ ' raised to power of ' $c$ ' is equal to ' $a$ '). Logarithms can be written to any base. Examples include:

- 1)  $\log_{10} 100 = 2$  since  $10_2 = 10 \times 10 = 100$
- 2)  $\log_2 64 = 6$  since  $2_6 = 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 = 64$
- 3)  $\log_5 625 = 4$  since  $5_4 = 5 \times 5 \times 5 \times 5 = 625$

On the basis of the fact that  $\log_b a = c \Rightarrow b^c = a$ , we can now deduce the following:

- a)  $\log_b 1 = 0$  because  $b_0 = 1$ . ( $\log 1$  to any given base ' $b$ ' (say) is zero)
- b)  $\log_a a = 1$  because  $a_1 = a$ .
- c)  $\log_c a = \log_c b$ , if and only if  $a = b$ .

### (II) Power Rule of Logarithm

For any positive number  $a$ , any logarithm base  $c$  and any real number  $x$ ,  $\log_c a^n = n \log_c a$ . In particular,  $\log_a a^n = n \log_a a = n$

#### Worked Example 5

Evaluate the following:

(a)  $\log_2 32$       (b)  $\log_{\frac{1}{4}} \frac{1}{16}$

(c)  $\log_{0.5} 0.125$

(d)  $\log_a a^3$

(5)  $\log_5 5^{2x}$

#### SOLUTION

(a) Let  $\log_2 32 = x$

$$\Rightarrow 2^x = 32$$

$$\Rightarrow 2^x = 2^5$$

$\therefore x = 5$  (equate the indices since the bases are equal)

Aliter,

$$\log_2 32 = \log_2 2^5 = 5 \log_2 2 = 5$$

(b) Let  $\log_{\frac{1}{4}} \frac{1}{16} = x$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^x = \frac{1}{16}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2\right)^x = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{2x} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x = 4$$

$$\therefore x = 2$$

Aliter,

$$\log_{\frac{1}{4}} \left(\frac{1}{16}\right) = \log_{\frac{1}{4}} \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^2 = 2 \log_{\frac{1}{4}} \left(\frac{1}{4}\right) = 2$$

(c) Let  $\log_{0.5} 0.125 = x$

$$\Rightarrow (0.5)^x = 0.125$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{5}{10}\right)^x = \frac{125}{1000}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{5}{10}\right)^x = \frac{5^3}{10^3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{5}{10}\right)^x = \left(\frac{5}{10}\right)^3$$

$$\therefore x = 3$$

Aliter,

$$\log_{0.5} 0.125 = \log_{\frac{5}{10}} \left(\frac{125}{1000}\right) = \log_{\frac{5}{10}} \left(\frac{5}{10}\right)^3$$

$$= 3 \log_{\frac{5}{10}} \left(\frac{5}{10}\right) = 3$$

(d) Let  $\log_a a^3 = x$

$$\Rightarrow a^x = a^3$$

$$\therefore x = 3$$

Hence,  $\log_a a^3 = 3$

Aliter,

$$\log_a a^3 = 3 \log_a a = 3$$

(e) Let  $\log_5 5^{2x} = P$

$$\Rightarrow 5^P = 5^{2x}$$

$$\therefore P = 2x$$

Hence,  $\log_5 5^{2x} = 2x$

Aliter,

$$\log_5 5^{2x} = 2x \log_5 5 = 2x$$



a) Express the equation  $\log_x (5x - 6) = 2$  in index form.

b) Hence, solve for  $x$ .

### SOLUTION

(a)  $\log_x (5x - 6) = 2$

$$x^2 = 5x - 6 \text{ (from definition)}$$

(b)  $x^2 - 5x + 6 = 0$

$$(x - 2)(x - 3) = 0$$

$$\text{Hence, } x = 2 \text{ or } x = 3$$

### Exercise 2

Evaluate the following:

- |                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. $\log_2 16$   | 2. $\log_5 125$      |
| 3. $\log_4 1024$ | 4. $\log_{10} 10000$ |
| 5. $\log_3 243$  | 6. $\log_7 343$      |

- |                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 7. $\log_{10} \frac{1}{10}$   | 8. $\log_2 \frac{1}{8}$       |
| 9. $\log_7 \frac{1}{49}$      | 10. $\log_2 16^{\frac{3}{4}}$ |
| 11. $\log_3 \frac{4}{25}$     | 12. $\log_9 \frac{1}{81}$     |
| 13. $\log_4 8$                | 14. $\log_{16} 0.25$          |
| 15. $\log_{1.5} 3.375$        | 16. $\log_{10} 0.0001$        |
| 17. $\log_3 81^{\frac{1}{2}}$ |                               |

Express the following equations into index form, and solve for  $x$ .

18.  $\log_x (6 - x) = 2$   
19.  $\log_x (10x - 25) = 2$   
20.  $\log_x (5x + 14) = 2$

### III. Product Rule of Logarithm

The product rule of logarithm states that *the logarithm of the product of  $AB$  (say) is the sum of their logarithm.*

That is,  $\log_c (AB) = \log_c (A) + \log_c (B)$

**Proof:**

Let  $\log_c A = P$  and  $\log_c B = Q$  where  $C_P > 1$  and  $C \neq 0$

Then,  $C_P = A$  and  $C_Q = B$

$\Rightarrow AB = C_P \times C_Q = C_{P+Q}$  (product of law of indices)

$\therefore \log_c AB = P + Q$

$= \log_c A + \log_c B$

### Worked Example 7

Evaluate  $\log_{10} 4 + \log_{10} 25$ .

**SOLUTION**

$$\begin{aligned}\log_{10} 4 + \log_{10} 25 &= \log_{10} (4 \times 25) \\ &= \log_{10} (4 \times 25) \\ &= \log_{10} 100 = \log_{10} 10^2 = 2\log_{10} 10 \\ &= 2 \times 1 = 2 \text{ (since } \log_a a = 1\text{)}\end{aligned}$$

**Worked Example 8**

Given that  $\log_{10} 5 = 0.6990$  and  $\log_7 10 = 0.8451$ . Find  $\log_{10} 35$ .

**SOLUTION**

$$\begin{aligned}\log_{10} 4 + \log_{10} 25 &= \log_{10} (4 \times 25) \\ &= \log_{10} (4 \times 25) \\ &= \log_{10} 100 = \log_{10} 10^2 = 2\log_{10} 10 \\ &= 2 \times 1 = 2 \text{ (since } \log_a a = 1\text{)}\end{aligned}$$

**Worked Example 8**

Given that  $\log_{10} 5 = 0.6990$  and  $\log_7 10 = 0.8451$ . Find  $\log_{10} 35$ .

**SOLUTION**

$$\begin{aligned}\log_{10} 35 &= \log_{10} (5 \times 7) \\ &= \log_{10} 5 + \log_{10} 7 \\ &= 0.6990 + 0.8451 \\ &= 1.5441\end{aligned}$$

**Exercise 3**

1. Show that  $\log_y PT = \log_y P + \log_y T$ .

Simplify the following:

2.  $\log_{10} 40 + \log_{10} 25$
3.  $\log_{10} \sqrt{25} + \log_{10} \sqrt{16}$
4.  $\log_{10} \frac{1}{4} + \log_{10} 8 + \log_{10} \frac{1}{2}$
5.  $\log_{10} \frac{16}{5} + \log_{10} \frac{65}{16} + \log_{10} \frac{100}{130}$



Find the value(s) of  $x$ ;

6. If  $\log_{10} x^1 + \log_{10} x^2 + \log_{10} x^3 = 14$ .

7. Given that  $\log_{10}(3x + 1) + \log_{10}(x + 5) = \log_{10}(3x^2 + 4x - 19)$ .

8. If  $\log_7(2x - 3) + \log_7(x - 4) = 1$ .

where  $\log_{10} 2 = 0.3010$ ,  $\log_{10} 3 = 0.4771$ ,  
 $\log_{10} 5 = 0.6990$ ,  $\log_{10} 7 = 0.8451$

Evaluate the following.

9.  $\log_{10} 210$

10.  $\log 252 + \log 9$

11.  $\log_{10} 4\frac{1}{2}$

12.  $\log_{10} 1.25 + \log_{10} 0.75$

13.  $\log_{10} 125^3$

14.  $\log_{10} 14 + \log_{10} 35$

15.  $\log_{10} 2\frac{1}{2} - \log_{10} 1\frac{1}{4}$

#### IV. Quotient Rule of Logarithm

The quotient rule of logarithm states that the logarithm of the quotient of  $\frac{A}{B}$  is the subtraction of the logarithm of the denominator from the logarithm of the numerator.

It is written as  $\log_c \left( \frac{A}{B} \right) = \log_c A - \log_c B$

where  $C > 0$  and  $C \neq 0$ .

**Proof:**

Let  $\log_c A = P$  and  $\log_c B = Q$

$$\Rightarrow C^P = A \text{ and } C^Q = B$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{A}{B} = \frac{C^P}{C^Q} = C^{P-Q}$$

$$\therefore \log_c \left( \frac{A}{B} \right) = P - Q = \log_c A - \log_c B$$

#### Worked Example 9

Simplify  $\log_3 12 - \log_3 4$ .

.....  
**SOLUTION**  
.....

$$\begin{aligned}\log_3 \left( \frac{12}{4} \right) &= \log_3 3 \\ &= 1\end{aligned}$$

#### Worked Example 10

Express  $1 - \log_{10} 5$  as a single logarithm.

**SOLUTION**

$$\begin{aligned} & 1 - \log_{10} 5 \\ &= \log_{10} 10 - \log_{10} 5 \\ &= \log_{10} \left( \frac{10}{5} \right) = \log_{10} 2 \end{aligned}$$

**Worked Example 11**

Given that  $\log_{10} (5x + 1) - \log_{10} (3x - 2) = 1$ . Find the value of  $x$ .

**SOLUTION**

$$\begin{aligned} 5x + 1 &= 10 (3x - 2) \\ 5x + 1 &= 30x - 20 \\ -25x &= -21 \\ 25x &= 21 \\ x &= \frac{21}{25} \end{aligned}$$

**Exercise 4**

1. (a) Prove that  $\log_c \left( \frac{A}{B} \right) = \log_c A - \log_c B$ .
- (b) Express each of the following in terms of sum and differences of log:
  - (i)  $\log_a \frac{xy^4}{z^3}$
  - (ii)  $\log_a \sqrt{\frac{a^2 b^3}{c^4}}$
  - (iii)  $\log_c \frac{xy^3}{a^2 b^4}$

Simplify the following:

2.  $\log_4 8 - \log_4 2$
3.  $\log_5 80 - \log_5 8 - \log_5 2$
4.  $\log_{10} \frac{4070}{243} - \log_{10} \frac{5}{9^2}$
5.  $2\log_3 \left( \frac{15}{4} \right) - \log_3 \frac{5}{8} \log_3 \frac{5}{6}$

Find the value(s) of  $x$  in the following:

6.  $\log_{10} x^5 - \log_{10} x^3 = 2$

7.  $\log_2 8^{2x} - \log_2 128 = 0$

8.  $\log_{10} (5x + 1) - \log_{10} (x - 3) = 1$

9.  $\log_{10} (2x + 1) - \log_{10} (3x - 2) = 1$

If  $\log_{10} 2 = 0.3010$ ,  $\log_{10} 3 = 0.4771$ ,  
 $\log_{10} 5 = 0.6990$  and  $\log_{10} 7 = 0.8451$ ,  
find the values of the following without using tables:

10.  $2\log_{10} 4\frac{2}{3}$

11.  $\log_{10} 75 - \log_{10} 8 - \log_{10} 14$

## V. Change of Base of Logarithms

$$\log_A P = x$$

$$\Rightarrow A^x = P \quad (\text{from definition of logarithm})$$

Then,

$$\log_C A^x = \log_C P \quad (\text{taking the log of both sides})$$

$$\Rightarrow x \log_C A = \log_C P \quad (\text{using the power rule})$$

$$\therefore x = \frac{\log_C P}{\log_C A} \quad (\text{dividing both sides by } \log_C A)$$

$$\therefore \log_A P = \frac{\log_C P}{\log_C A} \quad *$$

where  $A$ ,  $C$  and  $P$  are positive numbers.

$$\text{Also, } \log_C A = \frac{\log_A A}{\log_A C}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\log_A C} \quad (\text{since } \log_A A = 1)^*$$

### Worked Example 12

Evaluate  $\log_3 125 \times \log_5 81$ .

.....  
**SOLUTION**  
.....

$$\begin{aligned}
& \log_3 125 \times \log_5 81 \\
& \log_3 5^3 \times \log_5 3^4 \\
& = 3 \log_3 5 \times 4 \log_5 3 \\
& = 3 \times 4 \times \log_3 5 \times \log_5 3 \\
& = 12 \times \log_3 5 \times \frac{1}{\log_3 5} \\
& \quad \left( \text{recall } \log_B A = \frac{1}{\log_A B} \right) \\
& = 12 \times \frac{\log_3 5}{\log_3 15} \\
& = 12 \times 1 \\
& = 12
\end{aligned}$$

### Worked Example 13

Calculate the values of  $x$  given that  $\log_9 (8x - 15) = 4 \log_{81} x$ .

#### SOLUTION

$$\begin{aligned}
\Rightarrow \frac{\log_3 (8x - 15)}{\log_3 9} &= \frac{4 \log_3 x}{\log_3 81} \\
\Rightarrow \frac{\log_3 (8x - 15)}{\log_3 3^2} &= \frac{4 \log_3 x}{\log_3 3^4} \\
\Rightarrow \frac{\log_3 (8x - 15)}{2 \log_3 3} &= \frac{4 \log_3 x}{4 \log_3 3} \\
\Rightarrow \frac{\log_3 (8x - 15)}{2} &= \log_3 x \\
\Rightarrow \log_3 (8x - 15) &= \log_3 x^2 \\
\Rightarrow 8x - 15 &= x^2 \\
\Rightarrow x^2 - 8x + 15 &= 0 \\
\Rightarrow (x - 3)(x - 5) &= 0 \\
\Rightarrow x &= 3 \text{ or } 5
\end{aligned}$$

#### Note

1.  $\log_c AB \neq (\log_c A)(\log_c B)$ ; the log of a product is not the product of the log.
2.  $\log_c (A + B) \neq \log_c A + \log_c B$ ; the log of a sum is not the sum of the log.
3.  $\log_c \left( \frac{A}{B} \right) \neq \frac{\log_c A}{\log_c B}$ ; the log of a quotient is not the quotient of the log.
4.  $(\log_c A)^x \neq x \log_c A$ ; the power of the log is not the exponent times the log.

### Exercise 5

1. If  $A = \log_y z$ ,  $B = \log_z x$ ,  $C = \log_x y$ , show that  $A \times B \times C = 1$ .
2. Prove that  $\log_b A = \frac{1}{\log_A B}$ .
3. Solve the following equation leaving the answers in index form:  
$$5 \log_x 7 = \log_7 x$$
4. Solve for  $x$  in the following equation  
$$\log_8 y + \log_2 x = 4$$
5. Solve  $(\log_{27} x)^2 - \log_3 x + 2 = 0$

## VI. Use of Logarithm Tables

### Worked Example 14

Evaluate the following using log tables:

- (a)  $(45.34)^2$                       (b)  $(0.3054)^3$   
(c)  $\sqrt{0.8144}$                       (d)  $0.00376^{\frac{2}{3}}$

#### SOLUTION

$$\begin{aligned}\text{(a) } \log (45.34)^2 &= 2 \log (45.34) \\ &= 2 \times 1.6565 \\ &= 3.313\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore (45.34)^2 &= \text{antilog of } 3.313 \\ &= 2.056 \times 10^3 \\ &= 2\,056\end{aligned}$$

**Aliter**

$$\log (45.34)^2$$

Number	log
$(45.34)^2$	1.6565
	$\times 2$
	<hr/> 3.3130 <hr/>
2 056.0	2056
	$+ 0$
	<hr/> 2056 <hr/>

$$(b) \log (0.3054)^3$$

$$= 3 \log (0.3054)$$

$$= 3 \times \bar{1}.4849 \text{ (from tables)}$$

$$= \bar{2}.4544$$

$$\therefore (0.3054)^3 = \text{antilog of } \bar{2}.4544$$

$$= 2.847 \times 10^{-2}$$

$$= 0.02847$$

**Aliter**

Number	log
(0.3054)	$\bar{1}.4849$
	$\times \quad 3$
	$\hline \bar{2}.4447$
	2780
0.02784	$+ \quad 4$
	$\hline 2784$

$$(c) \log \sqrt{0.8144} = \log (0.8144)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \log 0.8144$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \times \bar{1}.9108 \text{ (from tables)}$$

$$= \bar{2} + 1.9108$$

$$= \bar{1}.9554$$

$$\therefore (0.8144)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \text{antilog of } \bar{1}.9554$$

$$= 9.024 \times 10^{-1}$$

$$= 0.9024$$

**Aliter**

Number	log
$(0.8144)^{\frac{1}{2}}$	$\bar{1}.9108 \div 2$
	$\frac{-2 + 1.9108}{2}$
	$\hline \bar{1}.9554$
	9016
0.9024	$+ \quad 8$
	$\hline 9024$



$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(d) } \log (0.0376)^{\frac{2}{3}} & \\
 &= \frac{2}{3} \log (0.0376) \\
 &= \frac{2}{3} \times \bar{2}.5752
 \end{aligned}$$

Next, we divide by 3 and multiply the result by 2.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\bar{2}.5752 \div 3 \\
 &\bar{3} + 1.5752 \div 3 \\
 &= \bar{1}.5251 \\
 &= \bar{1}.5251 \times 2 \\
 &= \bar{1}.0502
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \therefore (0.0376)^{\frac{2}{3}} &= \text{antilog of } \bar{1}.0502 \\
 &= 1.122 \times 10^{-1} \\
 &= 0.1122
 \end{aligned}$$

**Aliter**

Number	log
$(0.0376)^{\frac{2}{3}}$	$\bar{2}.5752 \times \frac{2}{3}$
	$\frac{\bar{3}.1504}{3}$
	$\bar{1}.0501$
	$\overline{1122}$
0.1122	$+ \quad 0$
	$\overline{1122}$

### Worked Example 15

Use log tables to evaluate, correct to 2 decimal places

$$\left( \sqrt[5]{\frac{0.364 \times 0.0489}{3.96}} \right)^3$$

**SOLUTION**

Number	log
0.364	$\bar{1}.5611$
0.0489	$\bar{2}.6893$ +
$0.364 \times 0.0489$	$\bar{2}.2504$
3.96	$0.5977$ -
	$\bar{3}.6527$
$\sqrt{\frac{0.364 \times 0.0489}{3.96}}$	$\frac{\bar{3}.6527}{5}$
	$= \frac{\bar{5} + 2.6527}{5}$
	$= \bar{1}.5305$

$\left(\sqrt{\frac{0.364 \times 0.489}{3.96}}\right)^3$	$\bar{1}.5305$
	$\times \quad 3$
	$\hline \bar{2}.5915$
$\left(\sqrt{\frac{0.364 \times 0.489}{3.96}}\right)^3$	$= \text{antilog } \bar{2}.5915$
	$= 3.904 \times 10^{-2}$
	$= 0.03904$
	$= 0.04 \text{ (2 d.p.)}$

### Exercise 6

Use logarithm tables to evaluate the following, correct to 3 significant figures:

1.  $(143.1)^2$
2.  $(0.0764)^{\frac{1}{3}}$
3.  $(0.00467)^{\frac{2}{3}}$
4.  $\frac{12.15^3 \times \sqrt{0.3413}}{161.5}$  (WAEC)
5.  $\frac{846.2^2 \times \sqrt{0.05436}}{462.4^{\frac{1}{3}}}$  (NECO)
6.  $\left( \frac{(14.34)^2 \times \sqrt{0.44}}{0.143} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$  (NECO)
7.  $(3.14)^2 \times (0.145)^{\frac{2}{3}} \times (0.0069)^{\frac{1}{4}}$
8.  $\sqrt{\frac{13.69 \times 164}{(145)^{\frac{1}{3}}}}$
9.  $\left( \frac{36.14 \times 0.691}{14.64 \times 14.34} \right)^{\frac{2}{3}}$
10.  $\left( \frac{0.336 \times 14.34}{14479} \right)^{-\frac{2}{5}}$

11.  $\frac{\sqrt{1.34} \times (36.3)^3}{\sqrt{0.145}}$
12.  $\left( \frac{69.4 \times 6.39 \times 0.67}{16.34 \times 3.11} \right)^{-\frac{2}{3}}$
13.  $\sqrt{\left( \frac{16.34 \times 17.36}{0.0075} \right)^3}$
14.  $\left( \frac{1.34}{3.64} \right)^2 \times \left( \frac{6.345}{8.162} \right)^3$
15.  $\sqrt{\frac{(0.345)^3 \times (1.369)^2}{(1.314)^5}}$

### SUMMARY

**In this chapter, we learnt the following:**

❖ Laws of positive indices

(a)  $a^x + a^y = a^{x+y}$

(b)  $a^x \div a^y = a^{x-y}$

(c)  $(a^x)^y = a^{xy}$

(d)  $a^x + b^x \times c^x = (abc)^x$

(e)  $\frac{a^m}{b^m} = \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^m$

(f) If  $a^x = a^y$  then  $x = y$

❖ Laws of negative indices

(a)  $a^{-x} = \frac{1}{a^x} = \left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^x$

(b)  $ab^{-x} = \frac{a}{b^x}$

(c)  $(ab)^{-x} = \frac{1}{(ab)^x} = \left(\frac{1}{ab}\right)^x$

(d)  $\frac{1}{a^{-x}} = \left(\frac{a}{1}\right)^x$

(e)  $\frac{a}{b^{-x}} = a(b)^x$

❖ Fractional indices

(a)  $a^{\frac{1}{x}} = (\sqrt[x]{a})^1$

(b)  $a^{\frac{x}{y}} = (\sqrt[y]{a})^x$

(c)  $a = \left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^{\frac{x}{y}} = \left(\sqrt[y]{\frac{1}{a}}\right)^x$

❖ Logarithm

Given that  $A$  and  $B$  are positive integers, where  $C > 0$  and  $C \neq 1$ , then

(a)  $\log_c A + \log_c B = \log_c AB$

(b)  $\log_c \left(\frac{A}{B}\right) = \log_c A - \log_c B$

(c)  $\log_c A^x = x \log_c A$ , where  $x$  is any real number.

(d)  $\log_c A = \log_c B$ , if and only if  $A = B$ .

(e)  $\log_c C = 1$

(f)  $\log_c 1 = 0$

(g)  $\log_b A = \frac{\log_c A}{\log_c B}$  (where  $C$  is any positive real number  $\neq 0$ )

(h)  $\log_b A = \frac{1}{\log_A B}$

## GRADUATED EXERCISES

1. Simplify  $\sqrt[3]{(3^9 \times 5^3)}$ .
2.  $32^{-\frac{3}{5}} \div 64^{-\frac{7}{3}}$
3. (a) Solve the equation  $3^{x+1} \div 9^{-1} = 1$ .  
(b) Solve the equation  $\frac{9^{2x-3}}{3^{x+3}} = 1$ .
4. If  $8^{x+1} = \frac{1}{4}$ , find  $x$ .
5. Solve the simultaneous equations  
 $5^{6x+y} = 1$  and  $2^{2y-3x} = \frac{1}{32}$ .
6. Evaluate  $\log_{10} 6 + \log_{10} 45 - \log_{10} 27$   
without using logarithm tables.
7. Solve  $3 \log a + 5 \log a - 6 \log a = \log 64$ .
8. Find  $x$ , given that  $6 \log (x+4) = \log 64$ .

9. Simplify  $\frac{\log \sqrt{8}}{\log 8}$ .

10. Using logarithm tables, evaluate

$\frac{\sqrt[3]{1.376}}{\sqrt[5]{0.007}}$ , correct to 3 significant figures.

11. If  $\log_{10}(2x+1) - \log_{10}(3x-2) = 1$ , find  $x$ .

12. Simplify the following without using logarithm tables:

$$\log_{10}\left(\frac{30}{16}\right) - 2\log_{10}\left(\frac{5}{9}\right) + \log_{10}\left(\frac{400}{243}\right)$$

13. Evaluate

$$\log_{10}\sqrt{35} + \log_{10}\sqrt{2} - \log_{10}\sqrt{7}.$$

14. (a) Given that  $\log_{10}2 = 0.3010$ ,  $\log_{10}7 = 0.8451$  and  $\log_{10}5 = 0.6990$ . Evaluate the following without using logarithm tables:

(i)  $\log_{10}35$       (ii)  $\log_{10}2.8$

(b) Given that  $N^{0.8942} = 2.8$ , use your result in (a.ii) to find the value of  $N$ .

15. Evaluate

$$\log_5\left(\frac{3}{5}\right) + 3\log_5\left(\frac{15}{2}\right) - \log_5\left(\frac{81}{8}\right).$$

16. Evaluate

$$\frac{1}{2}\log_{10}\left(\frac{25}{4}\right) - 2\log_{10}\left(\frac{4}{5}\right) + \log_{10}\frac{320}{125}.$$

17. Simplify

$$\log_{10}\sqrt{25} - \log_{10}\sqrt{4} + \log_{10}\sqrt{16}.$$



18. Evaluate, without log tables,

$$\frac{\log 8}{\log 12 - \log 3} \quad (\text{WAEC})$$

19. If  $\log_{10}(3x - 1) - \log 2 = 3$ , find the value of  $x$ . (WAEC)

20. Using tables evaluate  $\log_5 6$ .

21. Evaluate

$$\frac{1}{2}\log_{10} 25 - \frac{1}{3}\log_{10} 64 + \frac{2}{3}\log_{10} 8.$$

22. Evaluate

$$\log_5 81 \times \log_9 25.$$

23. Simplify

$$\frac{2\log 8 + \log 4 - \log 16}{\log 32}.$$

(WAEC)

24. Simplify

$$\frac{1}{2}\log_{10} 25 - 2\log_{10} 3 + \log_{10} 18.$$

(WAEC)