

Example Problems

Use the properties of Logarithms to solve the equations below.

1) $\log_{15}(3x) = \log_{15}(4x - 10)$

$$3x = 4x - 10$$

$$x = 10$$

2) $2 \log_8(x) = -2$

~~$\log_8 x^2$~~ $\log_8 x = -1$

$$8^{-1} = x$$

$$\frac{1}{8} = x$$

3) $\log(4) + \log(x) = \log(64)$

$$\log 4x = \log 64$$

$$4x = 64$$

$$x = 16$$

4) $\log_6(2x) - \log_6(10) = 1$

$$\log_6 \frac{2x}{10} = 1$$

$$6^1 = \frac{2x}{10}$$

$$60 = 2x$$

$$30 = x$$

5) $\log_7(2x - 8) + \log_7(2) = \log_7(66)$

$$\log_7 (2x-8)(2) = \log_7 66$$

$$4x - 16 = 66$$

$$4x = 82$$

$$x = 20.5$$

6) $\log_2(x - 5) - \log_2(x + 4) = 4$

$$\log_2 \frac{x-5}{x+4} = 4$$

$$2^4 = \frac{x-5}{x+4}$$

$$16 = \frac{x-5}{x+4}$$

$$16x + 64 = x - 5$$

$$15x = 69$$

$$x = 4.6$$

No Solution!

$$\log_2(-4.6+5) \Rightarrow \text{No Log}(\neq)$$

* Always check negative answers *

HPC/RPC Solving Log. Equations

Name: _____

Worksheet

Date: _____ Per. _____

1) $\log_6(5x - 6) = \log_6(2x)$

$$5x - 6 = 2x$$

$$3x = 6$$

$$\boxed{x = 2}$$

3) $5 + \log_2(x) = 4$

$$\log_2(x) = -1$$

$$2^{-1} = x$$

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{2} = x}$$

5) $\log_6(8) - \log_6(-5x) = \log_6(20)$

$$\log_6\left(\frac{8}{-5x}\right) = \log_6(20)$$

$$\frac{8}{-5x} = 20$$

$$-100x = 8$$

$$\boxed{x = -0.08 \text{ or } -\frac{2}{25}}$$

7) $\log_5(x) - \log_5(x + 2) = \log_5(42)$

$$\log_5\left(\frac{x}{x+2}\right) = \log_5(42)$$

$$\frac{x}{x+2} = 42$$

$$42x + 84 = x$$

$$84 = -41x$$

$$\boxed{x = \frac{-84}{41}}$$

9) $\frac{1}{2} \log(x^4) - \log(2x - 1) = \log(x^2) + \log(2)$

$$\log \frac{x^2}{2x-1} = \log(x^2(2))$$

$$\frac{x^2}{2x-1} = 2x^2$$

$$4x^3 - 2x^2 = x^2$$

$$4x^3 - 3x^2 = 0$$

$$x^2(4x-3) = 0$$

$$x^2 = 0 \quad 4x-3 = 0$$

$$\boxed{x = 0 \quad x = \frac{3}{4}}$$

10) $\log_5(x + 2) - \log_5(x) = \log_5(2x - 1) - \log_5(3x - 12)$

$$\log_5\left(\frac{x+2}{x}\right) = \log_5\left(\frac{2x-1}{3x-12}\right)$$

$$\frac{x+2}{x} = \frac{2x-1}{3x-12}$$

$$(x+2)(3x-12) = 2x^2 - x$$

$$3x^2 - 12x + 6x - 24 = 2x^2 - x$$

$$x^2 - 5x - 24 = 0$$

$$\rightarrow (x+3)(x-8) = 0$$

$$\boxed{x = -3 \quad x = 8}$$

2) $\log_8(-x + 7) = \log_8(-2x - 7)$

$$-x + 7 = -2x - 7$$

$$\boxed{x = -14}$$

4) $\log_6(x + 7) = 0$

$$6^0 = x + 7$$

$$1 = x + 7$$

$$\boxed{-6 = x}$$

6) $\log_9(x) + \log_9(x + 24) = 2$

$$\log_9(x(x+24)) = 2$$

$$9^2 = x^2 + 24x$$

$$0 = x^2 + 24x - 81$$

$$(x+27)(x-3) = 0$$

No negative logs
 ~~$x = -27$~~
 $x = 3$ only this one

8) $2 \log_6(x) - \log_6(12) = \log_6(x - 3)$

$$\log_6\left(\frac{x^2}{12}\right) = \log_6(x-3)$$

$$\frac{x^2}{12} = (x-3)$$

$$x^2 = 12x - 36$$

$$x^2 - 12x + 36 = 0$$

$(x-6)(x-6) = 0$
 $x = 6$