

Grade 12 – Textbook

(First edition – CAPS)

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Chapter A2

Logarithms and function inverses

See grade 11 Functions and exponents for revision and background!

A2.1 Logarithms:

A2.1.1 Definition of a logarithm:

Logarithms are the inverses of exponents.

Ex. If $2^5 = 32$ then $\log_2 32 = 5$

\therefore Per definition if $y = \log_a x \Leftrightarrow x = a^y$ with $a > 0 ; a \neq 1 \quad x > 0$

Remember: * $\log_a 1 = 0$ because $a^0 = 1$

* The natural logarithm is $\log x \Leftrightarrow \log_{10} x$

* $\log_a a = 1$ because $a^1 = a$

A2.1.2 Laws of logarithms:

For $a > 0 ; a \neq 1 ; b > 0 ; b \neq 1 ; x > 0$ and $y > 0$

- $\log_a x + \log_a y = \log_a xy$
- $\log_a x - \log_a y = \log_a \frac{x}{y}$
- $n \log_a x = \log_a x^n$
- $\log_a x = \frac{\log_b x}{\log_b a}$

Ex. 1 Simplify: (Without using a calculator.)

(a) $\log_4 2 + \log_4 32$

$= \log_4(2 \times 32)$

$= \log_4(64)$

$= \log_4(4^3)$

$= 3\log_4(4)$

$= 3(1)$

$= 3$

(b) $\log 200 - \log 2$

$= \log(200 \div 2)$

$= \log 100$

$= \log_{10} 10^2$

$= 2\log_{10} 10$

$= 2(1)$

$= 2$

(c) $\log_3 36 \times \log_6 9$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{\log 36}{\log 3} \times \frac{\log 9}{\log 6} \\
&= \frac{\log 6^2}{\log 3} \times \frac{\log 3^2}{\log 6} \\
&= \frac{2 \log 6}{\log 3} \times \frac{2 \log 3}{\log 6} \\
&= \frac{2 \log 6}{\log 3} \times \frac{2 \log 3}{\log 6} \\
&= 2 \times 2 \\
&= 4
\end{aligned}$$

(d) $\log_4 16 + \log_3 \frac{1}{3} - \log_7 1$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \log_4 4^2 + \log_3 3^{-1} - 0 \\
&= 2 \log_4 4 + (-1) \log_3 3 \\
&= 2(1) - 1(1) \\
&= 2 - 1 \\
&= 1
\end{aligned}$$

Ex. 2 If $\log 3 = 0,477$ and $\log 5 = 0,699$, calculate:
(Without using a calculator.)

(a) $\log 45$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \log(9 \times 5) \\
&= \log(3^2 \times 5) \\
&= \log 3^2 + \log 5 \\
&= 2 \log 3 + \log 5 \\
&= 2 \times 0,477 + 0,699 \\
&= 0,954 + 0,699 \\
&= 1,653
\end{aligned}$$

(b) $\log 30$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \log(3 \times 10) \\
&= \log 3 + \log 10 \\
&= \log 3 + \log 10 \\
&= 0,477 + 1 \\
&= 1,477
\end{aligned}$$

Ex. 3 Solve for x : (Without using a calculator.)

(a) $\log x + \log(x + 3) = 1$

$$\begin{aligned}
\therefore \log_{10} x(x + 3) &= 1 \\
\therefore 10^1 &= x^2 + 3x \\
\therefore 0 &= x^2 + 3x - 10 \\
\therefore 0 &= (x + 5)(x - 2) \\
\therefore x &= -5 \text{ or } x = 2 \\
\text{but } x &\neq -5, \text{ because } x > 0
\end{aligned}$$

(b) $\log_3(x + 4) - \log_3 x = \log_3 5$

$$\begin{aligned}
\therefore \log_3 \frac{(x+4)}{x} &= \log_3 5 \\
\therefore \log_3 \frac{(x+4)}{x} &= \log_3 5 \\
\therefore \frac{(x+4)}{x} &= 5 \quad [\text{Per definition}] \\
\therefore x + 4 &= 5x \\
\therefore x - 5x &= -4 \\
\therefore -4x &= -4 \\
\therefore x &= 1
\end{aligned}$$

Ex. 4 Solve for x : (Use a calculator and give your answer correct to 2 decimals.)

(a) $3^x = 7$

$$\begin{aligned}
\therefore \log_3 7 &= x \\
\therefore x &= \frac{\log 7}{\log 3} \\
\therefore x &\approx 1,77
\end{aligned}$$

(b) $1,3 = 2^{x-3}$

$$\begin{aligned}
\therefore \log_2 1,3 &= x - 3 \\
\therefore x - 3 &= \frac{\log 1,3}{\log 2} \\
\therefore x - 3 &= 0,3785 \dots \\
\therefore x &\approx 3,38
\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 1:

(1) Write the following in logarithmic form:

(a) $7^3 = 343$

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

(c) $y = 2^{x+1}$

(d) $2^{\log x} = 5$

(2) Write the following in exponential form:

(a) $\log_2 32 = 5$

(b) $\log y = k$

(c) $m = \log_3 k$

(d) $\log_3 \frac{1}{27} = -3$

(3) Write the following as separate logarithms with base 10 if $\{x; y; t; p\} > 0$:

(a) $\log \frac{xy}{p}$

(b) $\log_t p^2 t$

(4) Write the following as a single logarithm if $\{x; y; t; p\} > 0$:

(a) $\log t - \log y + 2 \log p$

(b) $\log_2(x-2) - \log_2(x+1) - \log_2 x$

(5) Simplify without using a calculator:

(a) $\log 25 + \log 8 - \log 2$

(b) $\log_2 16 + 3 \log_3 \left(\frac{1}{9}\right) - \log_{15} 1$

(c) $\frac{\log 32 - \log 243}{\log 3 - \log 2}$

(d) $\frac{\log_5 27 + \log_5 9}{\log_5 \sqrt{3}}$

(e) $\log 8000 - \log 8$

(f) $\frac{1}{2} \log_4 16 + \log_{0,2} 0,04 - \log_3 \sqrt{27} - \log 25 \times \log_5 1$

(6) Solve for x : [Where necessary, round off correct to 2 decimals.]

(a) $\log_4 2x = 3$

(b) $\log_3(x+2) + \log_3 x = 1$

(c) $\log_2(2x+12) - 2 \log_2 x = 1$

(d) $7^{3x} = 14$

(7) Write the following in terms of m and/or n if $\log 6 = m$ and $\log 3 = n$:

(a) $\log 18$

(b) $\log_{27} 36$

(c) $\log 300$

(d) $\log 20$

A2.2 Inverses:

The rule for the reflection in the line $x = y$ is: $(x ; y) \Leftrightarrow (y ; x)$

This reflection in the line $y = x$ is referred to as the inverse \Leftrightarrow it means that the x and y swap places!

The inverse of $f(x)$ is written as $f^{-1}(x)$.

Ex. 5 Determine $f^{-1}(x)$ in each of the following in the form $f^{-1}(x) = \dots$:

(a) $f(x) = 5x^2$

\therefore For f : $y = 5x^2$

\therefore For f^{-1} : $x = 5y^2$

$\therefore \frac{x}{5} = y^2$

$\therefore y = \pm \sqrt{\frac{x}{5}}$

$\therefore f^{-1}(x) = \pm \sqrt{\frac{x}{5}}$

(b) $f: x \rightarrow \frac{3}{x+2}$

\therefore For f : $y = \frac{3}{x+2}$

\therefore For f^{-1} : $x = \frac{3}{y+2}$

$\therefore y + 2 = \frac{3}{x}$

$\therefore y = \frac{3}{x} - 2$

$\therefore f^{-1}(x) = \frac{3}{x} - 2$

Exercise 2:

(1) Determine $f^{-1}(x)$ in each of the following and write it in the form $f^{-1}(x) = \dots$

(a) $f(x) = 3x - 4$

(b) $f(x) = 5^x$

(c) $f(x) = -2x^2$

(d) $f(x) = \log_{0,5} x$

(2) Determine $g^{-1}(x)$ in each of the following and write it in the form $g^{-1}: x \rightarrow \dots$

(a) $g: x \rightarrow \frac{x}{4}$

(b) $g: x \rightarrow \log_3 x$

(c) $g: x \rightarrow 3^{x+1}$

(d) $g: x \rightarrow -0,5x$

(3) Determine h in each of the following and write it in the form $h(x) = \dots$

(a) $h^{-1}(x) = \log_7 x$

(b) $h^{-1}(x) = \frac{x-2}{3}$

(c) $h^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{4}x^2$

(d) $h^{-1}(x) = \log x$

(4) Consider the following: $p(x) = \{(1; 7); (2; 8); (3; 9); (4; 10)\}$

(a) Is p a function? Motivate your answer.

(b) Write down the range of $p^{-1}(x)$.

(5) Explain the difference between $f^{-1}(x)$ and $(f(x))^{-1}$.

A2.3 Graphs of inverses:

A2.3.1 Graphs of inverses of the straight line:

See grade 11 Linear Functions for revision and background!

If the function $f(x) = mx + c$ is given, the inverse will be obtained as follows:

$$f(x) = mx + c \Leftrightarrow y = mx + c$$

\therefore For the inverse the x and y swap places: $x = my + c$

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{x - c}{m} \quad [\text{Make } y \text{ the subject!}]$$

$$\therefore f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x - c}{m} \Rightarrow \text{Inverse function}$$

Ex. 6 Given: $g(x) = 2x - 4$

(a) Determine $g^{-1}(x) = \dots$

(b) Sketch $g(x)$ and $g^{-1}(x)$ on the same system of axes.

(a) $g(x): y = 2x - 4 \Leftrightarrow \therefore g^{-1}(x): x = 2y - 4$

$$\therefore 2y = x + 4$$

$$\therefore y = \frac{1}{2}x + 2 \quad \therefore g^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{2}x + 2$$

(b) For $g(x)$: x -intercept ($y = 0$) y -intercept ($x = 0$)

$$2x - 4 = 0$$

$$y = 2(0) - 4$$

$$\therefore x = 2$$

$$\therefore y = -4$$

$$\therefore (2; 0) \quad \text{and} \quad (0; -4)$$

For $g^{-1}(x)$: x and y of $g(x)$ swap places:

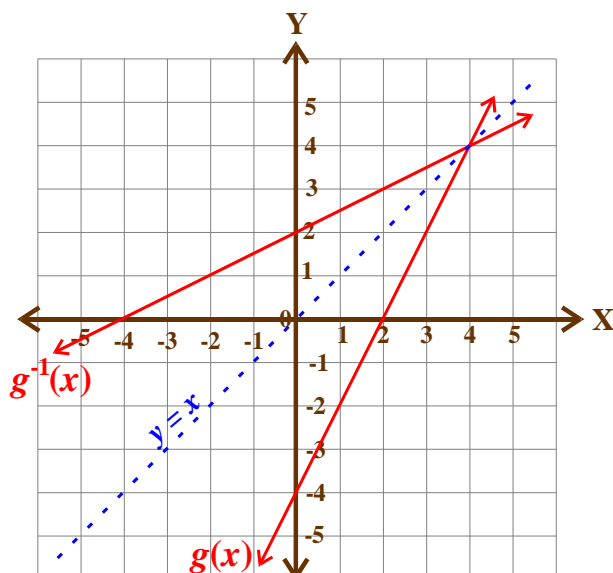
y -intercept ($x = 0$)

x -intercept ($y = 0$)

$$\therefore (0; 2)$$

and

$$(-4; 0)$$



A2.3.2 Graphs of inverses of the parabola:

See grade 11 Quadratic Functions for revision and background!

Ex. 7 Given: $g(x) = 2x^2$ with $x \geq 0$

(a) Determine $g^{-1}(x) = \dots$

(b) Sketch $g(x)$ and $g^{-1}(x)$ on the same system of axes.

(c) Write down the domain of $g^{-1}(x)$.

$$(a) \quad g(x): y = 2x^2 \text{ with } x \geq 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \therefore \quad g^{-1}(x): x = 2y^2 \text{ with } y \geq 0$$

$$\therefore \quad y^2 = \frac{x}{2}$$

$$\therefore \quad y = \pm \sqrt{\frac{x}{2}}$$

$$\text{but } y \geq 0$$

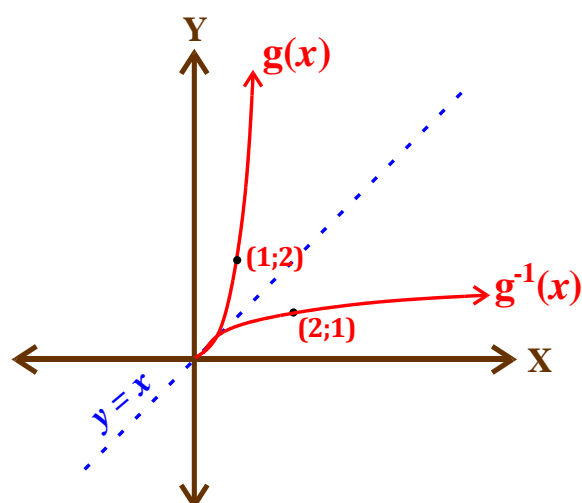
$$\therefore \quad g^{-1}(x) = +\sqrt{\frac{x}{2}}$$

(b) For $g(x)$: Use a table, because the x -and- y intercepts and the turning point is $(0; 0)$.

x	0	1	2	$x \geq 0$
y	0	2	8	

For $g^{-1}(x)$: x and y of $g(x)$ swap place:

x	0	2	8
y	0	1	2



(c) $D_{g^{-1}}: x \geq 0$

A2.3.3 Graphs of inverses of the exponential function:

See grade 11 Exponential Functions for revision and background!

If the function $f(x) = a^x$ is given, the inverse will be obtained as follows:

$$f(x) = a^x \Leftrightarrow y = a^x$$

\therefore For the inverse, the x and y swap places: $x = a^y$

$$\Rightarrow y = \log_a x \quad \text{[Make } y \text{ the subject!]}$$

\therefore The inverse of an exponential function is a logarithmic function.

Ex. 8 Given: $g(x) = 2^x$

(a) Determine $g^{-1}(x) = \dots$

(b) Sketch $g(x)$ and $g^{-1}(x)$ on the same system of axes.

(c) Write down the equation of the asymptote of $g^{-1}(x)$.

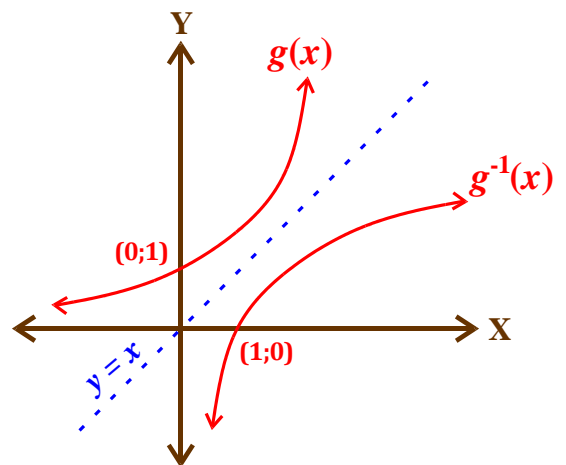
$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a) } g(x): y = 2^x & \Leftrightarrow \therefore g^{-1}(x): x = 2^y \\ & \therefore y = \log_2 x \\ & \therefore g^{-1}(x) = \log_2 x \end{aligned}$$

(b) For $g(x)$:

x	-1	0	1
y	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	2

For $g^{-1}(x)$: x and y of $g(x)$ swap places:

x	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	2
y	-1	0	1



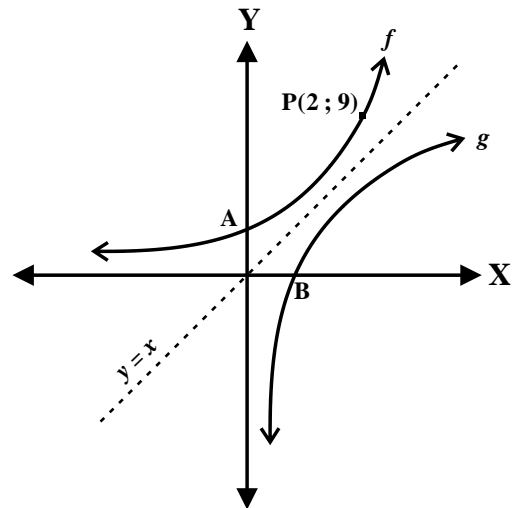
(c) Asymptote of $g^{-1}(x)$:

$$x = 0$$

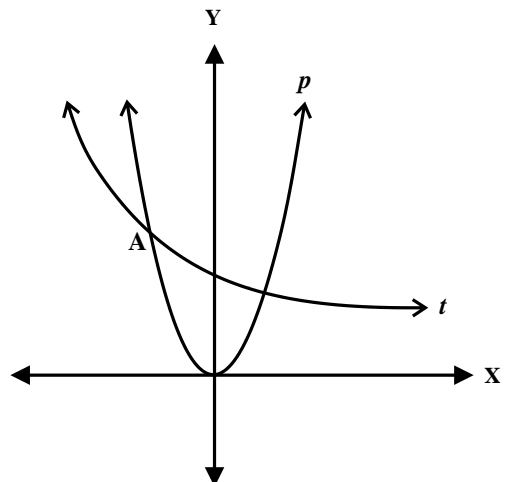
Exercise 3:

- (1) (a) Sketch: $g(x) = x^2 + 1$ for $x \leq 0$.
 (b) Determine g^{-1} and write it in the form $g^{-1}(x) = \dots\dots$
 (c) Sketch $g^{-1}(x)$ on the same system of axes as $g(x)$.
 (d) Write down the range of $g^{-1}(x)$.
- (2) Given: $h(x) = 2^{-x}$
 (a) Determine h^{-1} and write it in the form $h^{-1}(x) = \dots\dots$
 (b) Sketch h and h^{-1} on the same system of axes.
 (c) Write down the domain of $h^{-1}(x)$.
 (d) If p is the reflection of h in the y -axis, determine the equation of p and write it in the form $p(x) = \dots\dots$
 (e) Determine p^{-1} and write it in the form $p^{-1}(x) = \dots\dots$

- (3) Given: $f(x) = a^x$ and $g(x)$
 with $P(2; 9)$.
 (a) Determine the value of a .
 (b) Give the coordinates of A.
 (c) Determine the equation of $g(x)$,
 if $g(x)$ is the mirror image of $f(x)$
 in the line $y = x$.
 (d) Give the coordinates of B.
 (e) For which values of x will $g(x)$ be defined?
 (f) Write down the equation of the asymptote of $g(x)$.



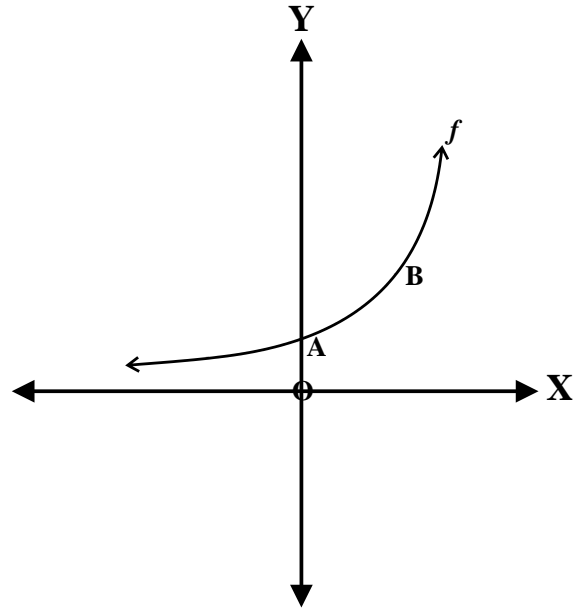
- (4) Given: $t(x) = a^x$ and $p(x) = bx^2$
 met $A(-2; 4)$.
 (a) Determine the values of a and b .
 (b) Write down the following: $t^{-1}(x) = \dots\dots$
 (c) Write down the following: $p^{-1}(x) = \dots\dots$
 (d) Explain why $p^{-1}(x)$ is not a function.
 (e) Determine x for which $t^{-1}(x) \geq 0$.
 (f) Calculate: $t^{-1}(0,25) + p(3)$



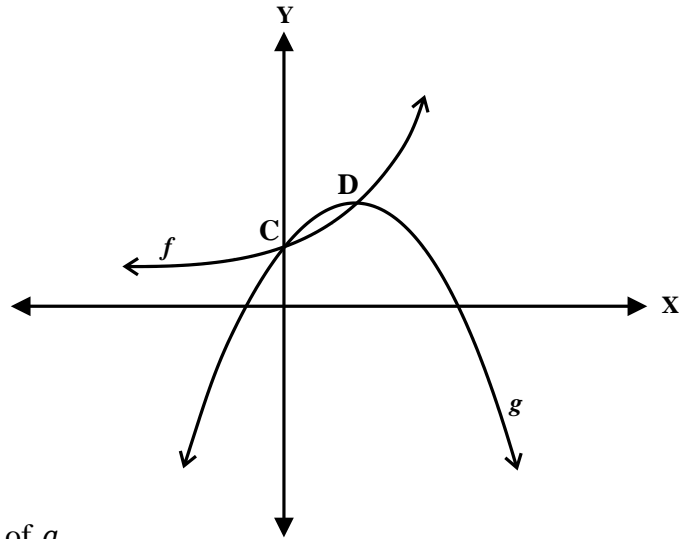
- (5) The graph of $f(x) = a^x$ is sketched alongside.

The point $B(3; 8)$ lies on the graph of f .

- Show that $a = 2$.
- Write down the coordinates of A.
- Write down the equation of $f^{-1}(x)$ in the form $f^{-1}(x) = \dots$
- Sketch the graph of f^{-1} .
Show the x -intercept and ONE other point.
- For which values of x will $f^{-1}(x) = f(x)$?
- Write down the equation of g if g is the reflection of f in the y -axis.
- Write down the equation of h if h is the reflection of f^{-1} in the x -axis.
- Are g and h one another's inverse? Motivate your answer.
- For which values of x will $f^{-1}(x) \geq 0$?
- Calculate: $f^{-1}(2) + f(-2)$



- (6) On the right is the graphs of $f(x) = 2^x$ and $g(x) = -(x - 1)^2 + b$, with b as a constant value. The graphs of f and g intersect on the y -axis at C. D is the turning point of g .



- Show that $b = 2$.
- Write down the coordinates of the turning point of g .
- Write down the equation of $f^{-1}(x)$ in the form $y = \dots\dots$
- Sketch the graph of f^{-1} on the same graph as given above.
Show on your graph the x -intercept and the coordinates of one other point.
- Write down the equation of h if $h(x) = g(x + 1) - 2$.
- How can the domain of h be restricted so that h^{-1} will be a function?
- Determine the maximum value of $2^2 - (x - 1)^2$.

REVISION FROM PAST PAPERS:

Exercise A:

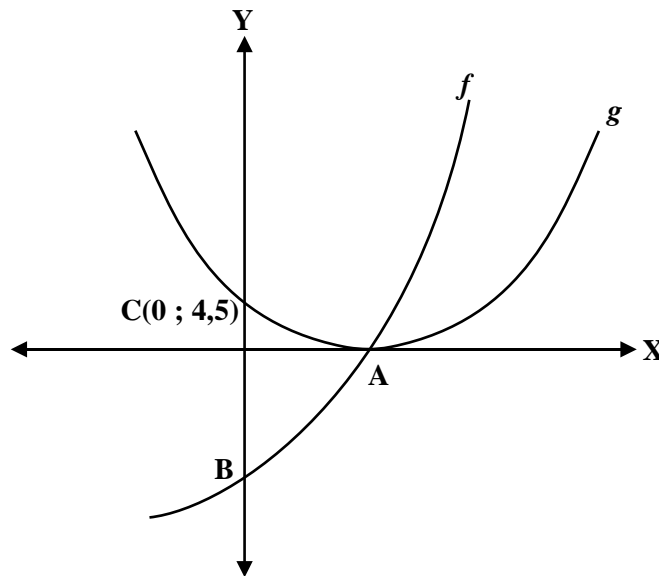
Consider the function $f(x) = \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^x$

- (1) Is f an increasing or decreasing function? Give a reason for your answer. (2)
- (2) Calculate $f^{-1}(x)$ in the form $y = \dots\dots\dots$ (2)
- (3) Write down the equation of the asymptote of $f(x) - 5$. (1)
- (4) Describe the transformation of f to g if $g(x) = \log_3 x$. (2)

Exercise B:

The graphs of $f(x) = 2^x - 8$ and $g(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$

sketched below. B and C(0 ; 4,5) are the y-intercepts of the graphs of f and g respectively. The two graphs intersect at A, which is the turning point of the graph of g and the x-intercept of the graphs of f and g .



- (1) Determine the coordinates of A and B. (4)
- (2) Write down the equation of the asymptote of graph f . (1)
- (3) Determine the equation of h if $h(x) = f(2x) + 8$. (2)
- (4) Determine the equation of h^{-1} in the form $y = \dots\dots\dots$ (2)
- (5) Write down the equation of p , if p is the reflection of h^{-1} in the x -axis. (1)
- (6) Calculate $\sum_{k=0}^3 g(k) - \sum_{k=4}^5 g(k)$. Show ALL calculations. (4)

Exercise C:

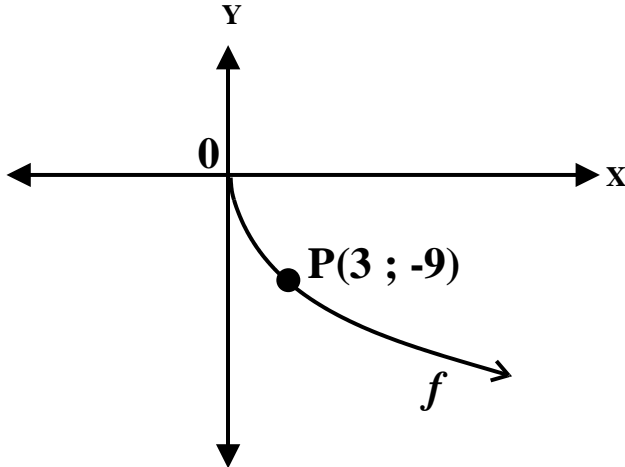
Given: $f(x) = 3^x$

- (1) Determine an equation for f^{-1} in the form $f^{-1}(x) = \dots$ (1)
- (2) Sketch the graphs of f and f^{-1} , clearly showing ALL intercepts with the axes. (4)
- (3) Write down the domain of f^{-1} . (2)
- (4) For which values of x will $f(x) \cdot f^{-1}(x) \leq 0$? (2)
- (5) Write down the range of $h(x) = 3^{-x} - 4$. (2)
- (6) Write down an equation for g if the graph of g is the image of the graph of f after f has been translated two units to the right and reflected about the x -axis. (2)

Exercise D:

The graph of $f(x) = -\sqrt{27x}$ for $x \geq 0$ is sketched below.

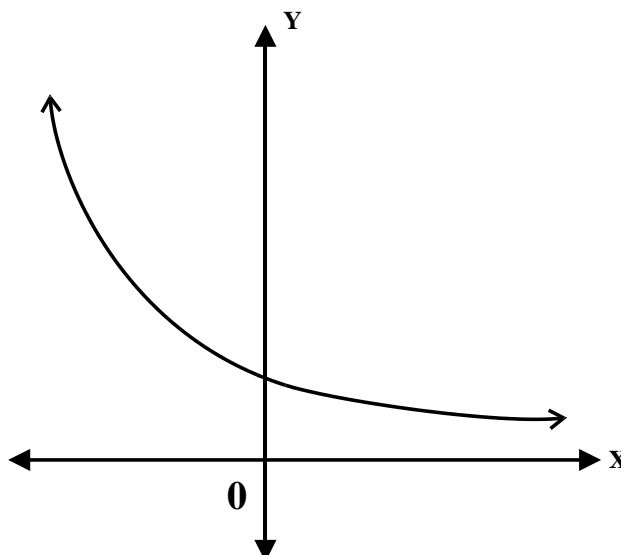
The point $P(3; -9)$ lies on the graph of f .



- (1) Use the graph to determine the values of x for which $f(x) \geq -9$. (2)
- (2) Write down the equation of f^{-1} in the form $y = \dots$. (3)
Include ALL restrictions.
- (3) Sketch f^{-1} , the inverse of f . Indicate the intercept(s) with the axes and the coordinates of ONE other point. (3)
- (4) Describe the transformation of f to g if $g(x) = \sqrt{27x}$ for $x \geq 0$. (1)

Exercise E:

The graph of $f(x) = \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^x$ is sketched on the right.

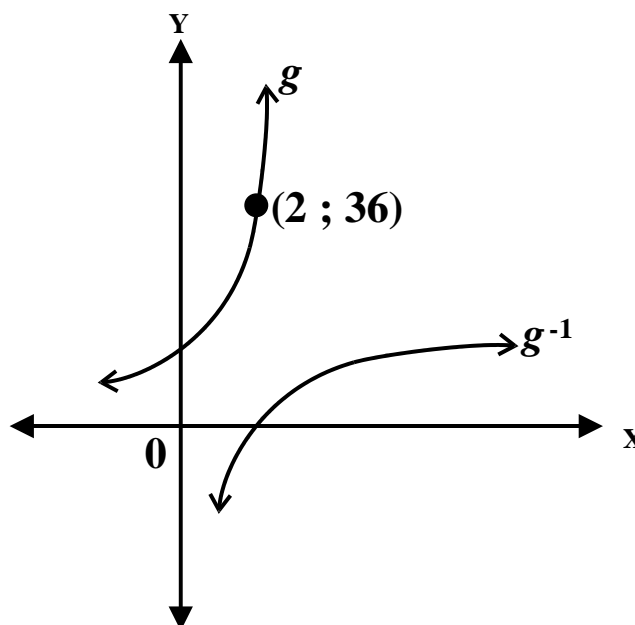


- (1) Write down the domain of f . (1)
- (2) Write down the equation of the asymptote of f . (1)
- (3) Write down the equation of f^{-1} in the form $y = \dots$. (2)
- (4) Sketch the graph of f^{-1} . Indicate the x -intercept and the coordinates of ONE other point. (3)
- (5) Write down the equation of the asymptote of $f^{-1}(x + 2)$. (2)
- (6) Prove that: $[f(x)]^2 - [f(-x)]^2 = f(2x) - f(-2x)$ for all values of x . (3)

Exercise F:

The graphs of $g(x) = k^x$, with $k > 0$ and $y = g^{-1}(x)$ is sketched on the right.

The point $(2 ; 36)$ is a point on g .



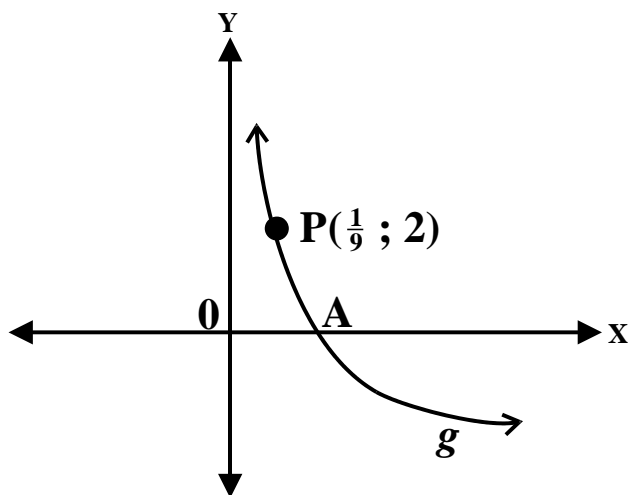
- (1) Determine the value of k . (2)
- (2) Write down the equation of g^{-1} in the form $y = \dots$. (2)
- (3) For which value(s) of x will $g^{-1}(x) \leq 0$? (2)
- (4) Write down the domain of h , for $h(x) = g^{-1}(x - 3)$. (1)
- (5) Sketch the graph of the inverse of $y = 1$. (2)
- (6) Is the inverse of $y = 1$ a function? Motivate your answer. (2)

Exercise G:

Given the graph of $g(x) = \log_{\frac{1}{3}} x$

A is the x -intercept of g .

$P\left(\frac{1}{9}; 2\right)$ is a point on g .



- (1) Write down the coordinates of A. (1)
- (2) Sketch the graph of g^{-1} and indicate intercepts as well the coordinates of ONE other that will lie on the graph. (3)
- (3) Write down the domain of g^{-1} . (1)