

Name: KEY Hour: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Use Functions Involving e  
**NOTES: Section 7.3 – Graph Exponential Decay Functions**

Goals: #1 - I can graph an exponential function with a natural base.

#2 - I can use the natural base in a real life application.

#3 - I can model continuously compounded interest.



*Homework: Lesson 7.3 Worksheet*

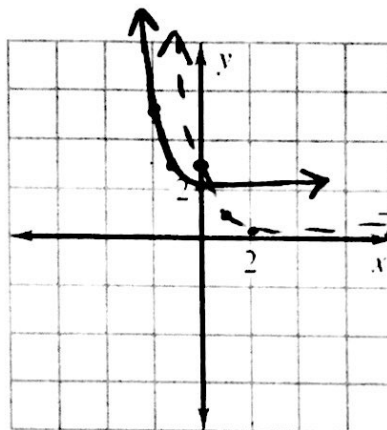
$3(\frac{1}{4})^x$  Warm Up:

1.  $f(x) = 3(\frac{1}{4})^{\frac{x+2}{1+2+2}}$   
UP 2

x	y
-1	12
0	3
1	0.8
2	0.2

domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

range:  $(2, \infty)$



2. A new laptop computer costs \$1500. The value of the computer decreases by 22% each year.

a. Write an exponential decay model to represent the situation.

$$y = 1500(1 - 0.22)^t$$

$$y = 1500(0.78)^t$$

b. Estimate the value of the computer after 2 years.

$$y = 1500(0.78)^2$$

$$y \approx \$912.6$$

**Exploration #1:** Work with a partner and answer the following questions.

1. Complete the table of values by using your calculator.

x	$10^1$	$10^2$	$10^3$	$10^4$	$10^5$	$10^6$
$(1 + \frac{1}{x})^x$	2.594	2.705	2.717	2.718	2.718	2.718

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hour: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Notes:**

We have worked with special numbers such as  $\pi$  and  $i$ .

Another special number is called the natural base and is denoted by the letter  $e$  (the Euler number).

The natural base  $e$  is irrational, so we cannot find its exact value. It is defined as:

$$\text{As } n \text{ approaches } +\infty, \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \text{ approaches } e \approx 2.718281828$$

Find the  $e$  button on your calculator and write the approximation: 2.718281828

**Example #1:** Simplify the expression.

1.  $e^6 \cdot e^3$

$$e^{6+3}$$

$$\boxed{e^9}$$

2.  $\frac{18e^6}{2e^4}$

$$9e^{6-4}$$

$$\boxed{9e^2}$$

3.  $(4e^{3x})^2$

$$4^2 e^{3 \cdot 2x}$$

$$\boxed{16e^{6x}}$$

**You practice:** Simplify the expression.

1.  $2e^{-3} \cdot 6e^5$

$$12e^{-3+5}$$

$$\boxed{12e^2}$$

2.  $(10e^{-4x})^3$

$$10^3 e^{-4 \cdot 3x}$$

$$1000 e^{-12x}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{1000}{e^{12x}}}$$

**Example #2:** Use a calculator to evaluate the expression.

1.  $e^{-2}$

$$\boxed{0.1353}$$

2.  $e^{0.3}$

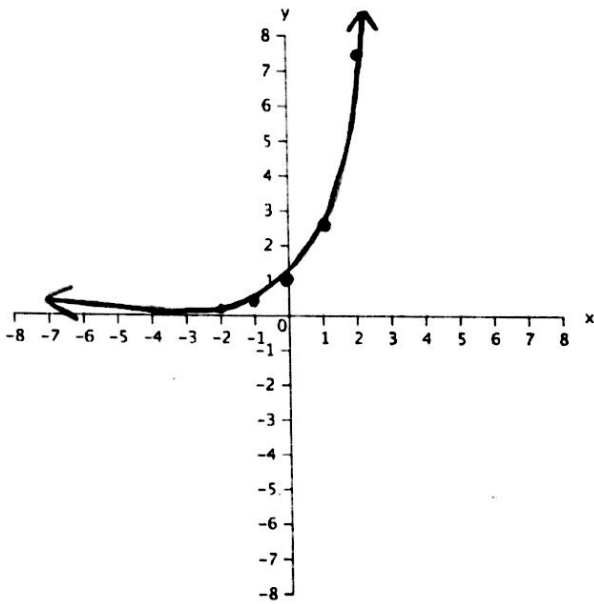
$$\boxed{1.3499}$$

**Exploration #2:** Work with a partner and answer the following questions.

1. Use your calculator to complete the table.

$x$	-2	-1	0	1	2
$y = e^x$	0.14	0.37	1	2.72	7.39

2. Graph the function  $y = e^x$  using your table. Then state the domain and range.



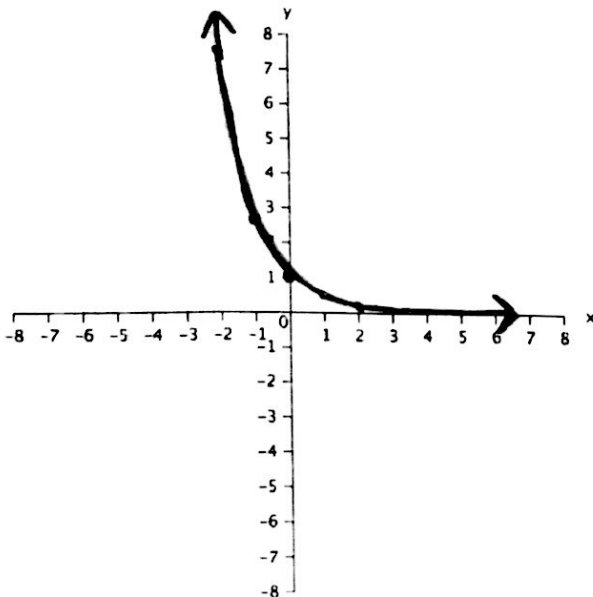
domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

range:  $(0, \infty)$

3. Use your calculator to complete the table.

$x$	-2	-1	0	1	2
$y = e^{-x}$	7.39	2.72	1	0.37	0.14

4. Graph the function  $y = e^{-x}$  using your table. Then state the domain and range.



domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

range:  $(0, \infty)$

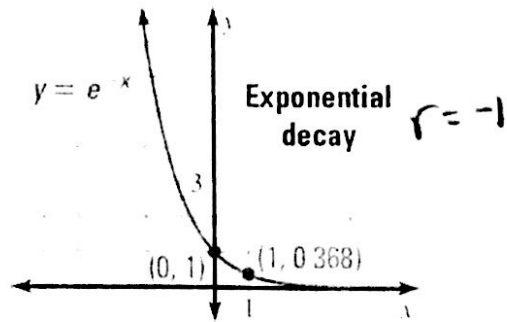
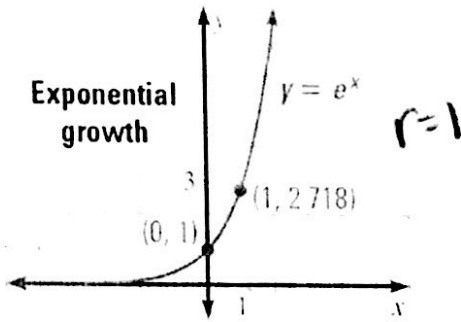
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hour: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

A function of the form  $y = ae^{rx}$  is called a natural base exponential function.

- If  $r > 0$ , the function is an exponential growth function.
- If  $r < 0$ , the function is an exponential decay function.

The graphs of the basic functions  $y = e^x$  and  $y = e^{-x}$  are shown below.



Example #3: Tell whether the function is an example of *exponential growth* or *exponential decay*.

1.  $f(x) = \frac{1}{4}e^{-3x}$   $r = -3$

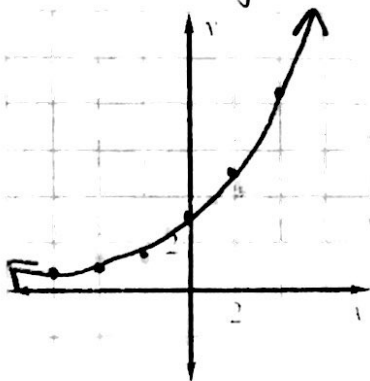
decay

2.  $f(x) = 2e^{2x}$   $r = 2$

growth

Example #4: Graph the function. State the domain and range.

1.  $y = 3e^{0.25x}$  growth

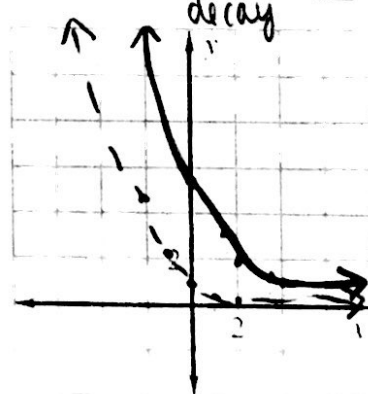


x	y
-6	0.7
-4	1.1
-2	1.8
0	3
2	4.9
4	8.2

domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

range:  $(0, \infty)$

2.  $y = e^{-0.75(x-2)} + 1$  right 2  
decay up 1



$e^{-0.75x}$

x	y
-2	4.5
-1	2.1
0	1
1	0.5
2	0.2

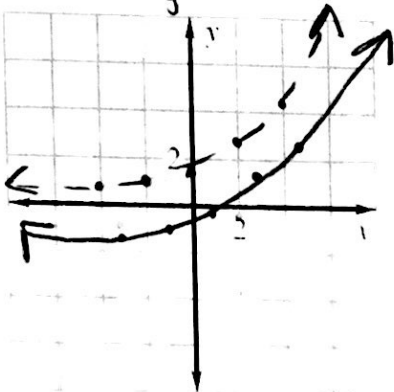
domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

range:  $(1, \infty)$

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Hour: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

You practice: Graph the function. State the domain and range.

1.  $y = 1.5e^{\frac{0.25(x-1)}{\text{right}} - 2}$  down 2 growth



domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

range:  $(2, \infty)$

$$y = 1.5e^{0.25x}$$

x	y
-4	0.6
-2	0.9
0	1.5
2	2.8
4	4.1

OR  $y = 1.5e^{0.25(x-1)} - 2$

x	y
-4	-1.6
-2	-1.3
0	-0.8
2	-0.08
4	1.2
6	3.2

Notes:

In Section 7.1, we learned about compound interest:

$$A = P \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt}$$

As the number of times interest is compounded increases, it approaches continuously compounded interest which is given by the formula:  $A = Pe^{rt}$   
Principal  $\leftarrow$   $P$ ,  $r \rightarrow$  rate (%),  $t \rightarrow$  time (years)

**Example #5:** You deposit \$3500 in an account that pays 4% annual interest. What is the balance after 1 year?

1. What is the balance if the interest is compounded monthly?

$$A = 3500 \left(1 + \frac{0.04}{12}\right)^{12 \cdot 1}$$

$$A \approx \boxed{\$3642.60}$$

2. What is the balance if the interest is compounded continuously?

$$A = 3500 e^{0.04(1)}$$

$$A \approx \boxed{\$3642.84}$$