

## 6.2 Logarithms

BLM 6-3

1. Rewrite each equation in logarithmic form:

a)  $3^5 = 243$       b)  $\frac{1}{216} = 6^{-3}$

2. Rewrite each equation in exponential form:

a)  $\log_4 64 = 3$       b)  $y = \log 30$

3. Evaluate without using a calculator.

a)  $\log_8 64$       b)  $\log_2 \frac{1}{64}$   
 c)  $\log 100$       d)  $\log 10^{-2.6}$

4. Use a graphical method to estimate the value of each, to one decimal place.

a)  $\log_2 5$       b)  $\log_2 3$

5. Evaluate, correct to two decimal places, using a calculator:

a)  $\log_5 15$       b)  $\log_2 0.8$

6. The age of a bone can be determined from the fraction of carbon-14 that remains in the bone. The age is calculated by using the formula  $A = -19\,000(\log R)$ , where  $A$  is the age in years and  $R$  is the fraction of carbon-14 remaining.

- a) How old is a bone that has only  $\frac{3}{4}$  of its original carbon-14?  
 b) How old is a bone that has only 10% of its original carbon-14?  
 c) Express the formula in exponential form.  
 d) Use your answer to part c) to calculate the percent of carbon-14 remaining in a bone from an animal that died 100 years ago.

7. In the *Key Concepts* of this section, it is stated that “the value of  $\log_b x$  is equal to the exponent to which the base,  $b$  is raised to produce  $x$ .” Use this definition to explain why  $\log_4 4^{20} = 20$ .

8. The pH scale used to specify the acidity of a solution is given by the formula  $pH = -\log(C)$ , where  $C$  is the concentration of hydronium ions in a solution in moles per litre.

- a) A strong acid has a concentration of  $2.6 \times 10^{-3}$  mol/L. What is its pH?  
 b) Express the formula in exponential form.  
 c) Use your answer to part b) to determine the concentration of hydronium ions in a neutral solution (pH = 7).

9. Use a calculator.

- a) Evaluate the following, correct to two decimal places.

$\log 3.16$ ,  $\log(3.16^2)$ ,  $\log(3.16^3)$ ,  
 $\log(3.16^4)$

Find a pattern in your answers.

- b) Use the pattern you found in part a) to calculate  $\log(3.16^{10})$  and  $\log(3.16^{2.5})$ . Check your answers with a calculator.

- c) Use the pattern to calculate  $\log(100^{50})$ ,  $\log_2(32^5)$ , and  $\log \sqrt{1000}$

10. Use a calculator.

- a) Evaluate the following, accurate to one decimal place:  $\log 4$ ,  $\log 20$ , and  $\log 80$ . Find a pattern in your answers.  
 b) Use the pattern you found in part a) to calculate  $\log(80 \times 4)$  and  $\log(80 \times 20)$ . Check your answers with a calculator.  
 c) Use the pattern to calculate  $\log_2(8 \times 32)$  and  $\log_5(25\sqrt{5})$ .