

8.7 Writing Exponential and Power Functions

std. 12.0

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- exponential function: $y = ab^x$

1 Write an exponential function whose graph passes through (2, 9) and (4, 20.25).

$$y = ab^x$$

$$9 = ab^2$$

$$20.25 = ab^4$$

$$\frac{9}{1.5^2} = \frac{9}{b^2} = a$$

$$20.25 = \frac{9}{b^2} \cdot b^4$$

$$20.25 = 9b^2$$

$$\pm 1.5 = b$$

$$4 = a$$

$$1.5 = b$$

$$y = 4(1.5)^x$$

- power function: $y = ax^b$

2 Write a power function whose graph passes through (6, 8) and (12, 36).

$$y = ax^b$$

$$8 = a \cdot 6^b$$

$$36 = a \cdot 12^b$$

$$\frac{8}{6^{2.17}} \approx \left(\frac{8}{6^b}\right) = a$$

$$36 = \frac{8}{6^b} \cdot 12^b$$

$$36 = 8 \cdot 2^b$$

$$\log 4.5 = \log 2^b$$

$$\frac{\log 4.5}{\log 2} = b \log 2 \approx 2.170$$

$$.164 \approx a$$

$$y = .164x^{2.170}$$

$$\frac{12^b}{6^b} = \left(\frac{12}{6}\right)^b$$

change of base formula: $\log_b a = \frac{\log_{10} a}{\log_{10} b}$

3 $\log_5 9 = \frac{\log_{10} 9}{\log_{10} 5}$

$$\log_5 9 = x$$

$$\log_{10} 5^x = \log_{10} 9$$

$$x \log_{10} 5 = \frac{\log_{10} 9}{\log_{10} 5}$$