

1. What does the absolute value mean?  $|x|$   $|x| = \begin{cases} -x & x < 0 \\ x & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$

2. Equation of a circle  $(x-h)^2 + (y-k)^2 = r^2$   $(h, k)$  is the center point and  $r$  is the radius

3. Solve for  $x$ :  $\frac{x^3 + x^2 - 20x}{x+4} = 0$

$$x(x+5)(x-4) = 0$$

$$x = -5 \quad x = 4 \quad x = 0$$

**NEVER DIVIDE BY THE VARIABLE  
YOU ARE SOLVING FOR.**

4. Simplify:  $\frac{x^3 + x^2 - 20x}{x+5}$

$$= \frac{x(x+5)(x-4)}{x+5} = x(x-4)$$

5. A table of values represents a linear function,  $y = mx + b$ ,

a. if the slope between any two points are the same.  $m = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{y_3 - y_2}{x_3 - x_2}$

b. if the increments between the  $x$ 's are the same  $x_2 - x_1 = x_3 - x_2$  and if the different between the  $y$ 's are the same  $y_2 - y_1 = y_3 - y_2$ .

$$y_2 - y_1 = \text{slope only if } x_2 - x_1 = 1$$

6. A table of values represents an exponential function,  $y = Ca^x$ ,

a. if  $a = \sqrt[x_2 - x_1]{\frac{y_2}{y_1}} = \sqrt[x_3 - x_2]{\frac{y_3}{y_2}}$

b. if the  $x$ 's are the equally spaces  $x_2 - x_1 = x_3 - x_2$  and if the ratios of the  $y$ 's are the same  $\frac{y_2}{y_1} = \frac{y_3}{y_2}$ .

$$\frac{y_2}{y_1} = a \text{ only if } x_2 - x_1 = 1$$

7. Solve for  $x$ :  $x^2 = 9$

$$|x| = 3$$

$$x = \pm 3$$

8. Simplify:  $\sqrt{9}$  the answer is **3**.

**Hint #1**

Story Problems  $r$  = rate of growth or decay

If  $r$  is given as a percentage then the equation is exponential

If  $r$  is given as a number per \_\_\_\_ (not a percentage) then the equation is linear.

If the problem says one of the following:

1. if growth is exponential with a rate of  $r$ , then use  $P = P_o a^t$  where  $a = 1+r$
2. if decay is exponential with a rate of  $r$ , then use  $P = P_o a^t$  where  $a = 1-r$
3. if it is a **continuous** growth rate of  $r$ , then use  $P = P_o e^{kt}$  where  $k = r$
4. if it is a **continuous** decay rate of  $r$ , then use  $P = P_o e^{-kt}$  where  $k = r$

Only use formulas 3 and 4 if the word **continuous** is in the word problem

Examples in Story problems

The garbage grows in the apartment at the following rates. The apartment started with 5 lbs of garbage.

- a) Increases 3 lbs per day (linear growth)  $f(t) = 3t + 5$   $t$  is in days
- b) Increase 3% per day (exponential)  $g(t) = 5(1.03)^t$   $t$  is in days
- c) Increasing continuously 3% per day (exponential)  $k(t) = 5e^{.03t}$   $t$  is in days

**Hint #2** Writing sinusoidal functions (sine and cosine functions)

When given a graph or a table and you are asked to write a possible sinusoidal function.

You know it is in one of these two forms

$$g(t) = A \sin((B(t - C)) + D \text{ or } f(t) = A \cos((B(t - C)) + D$$

Goal is to write the function either as sine or cosine function, if possible, with no phase shift  
assume  $A > 0$

1. If the maximum value is given at  $t=0$  then use  $g(t) = A \cos(Bt) + D$
2. If the minimum value is given at  $t=0$  then use  $g(t) = -A \cos(Bt) + D$
3. If the midline value is given at  $t=0$  and the function is increasing then use  $g(t) = A \sin(Bt) + D$
4. If the midline value is given at  $t=0$  and the function is decreasing then use  $g(t) = -A \sin(Bt) + D$
5. If the value at  $t=0$  is not one of the above you will have a phase shift, choose min, max or midline value to write the equation with a phase shift

A is amplitude  $A = \frac{\text{Max} - \text{Min}}{2}$  or Max – Midline or Midline – Min

B is angular frequency  $B = \frac{2\pi}{\text{period}}$

C is the phase shift

D is the midline (average)  $D = \frac{\text{Max} + \text{Min}}{2}$