

3.2 Logarithmic and exponential functions

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 13 marks

KEY WORDS logarithmic and exponential functions 对数与指数函数

Objective

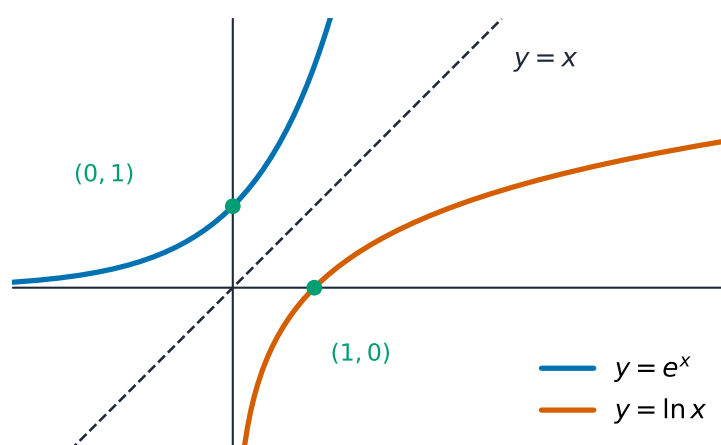
Build the skills to answer exam questions on **logarithmic and exponential functions** 对数与指数函数 in Pure 3 — the same log/exp toolkit as Pure 2, applied to equations and modelling.

You must be able to:

- use the laws of logarithms and $e^x/\ln x$ as inverses
- solve equations with the unknown in the power or inside a log
- handle exponential models (growth/decay)

1 Worked examples

■ Solving log/exp equations



$\ln$ and $\exp$ inverse • reflect in $y = x$

e^x and $\ln x$ undo each other — take logs to free an unknown power

Solve $e^{2x} - 5e^x + 6 = 0$. Let $u = e^x$: $u^2 - 5u + 6 = 0 \Rightarrow (u - 2)(u - 3) = 0$. So $e^x = 2$

or 3, giving $x = \ln 2$ or $\ln 3$.

2 Practice

2.1 Solve $\ln(x - 1) = 2$, giving x to 3 s.f. [2]

2.2 Write $2 \ln a - \ln b$ as a single logarithm. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The solution of $5e^{-x} = 2$ is: [1]

A	B
C	D

A $\ln 2.5$

B $-\ln 2.5$

C $\ln 0.4$

D $\ln 10$

3.2 Solve the equation $e^{2x} - 7e^x + 10 = 0$, giving exact answers. [4]

3.3 A quantity decays so that $P = P_0 e^{-kt}$. After 5 years P has fallen to half of P_0 .

(a) Find k , to 3 s.f. [3]

(b) Find the time for P to fall to one tenth of P_0 . [2]
