



Solving Equations using Logarithms - Edexcel Past Exam Questions **MARK SCHEME**

Question 1 : Jan 05 Q3

Question Number	Scheme	Marks
	<p>(a) $\log 3^x = \log 5$ $x = \frac{\log 5}{\log 3}$ $= 1.46$</p> <p>(b) $\log_2 \left(\frac{2x+1}{x} \right) = 2$ $\frac{2x+1}{x} = 2^2 \text{ or } 4$ $2x+1 = 4x$ $x = \frac{1}{2} \text{ or } 0.5$</p>	<p>M1 A1 A1 cao (3)</p> <p>M1 M1 M1 A1 (4)</p> <p>(7)</p>
	<p>(a) M1 a correct attempt to take logs A1 an exact expression for x that can be evaluated on a calculator e.g. $x = \log_3 5$ scores M1 A0</p> <p>(b) 1st M1 for use of $\log a(\pm) \log b$ rule 2nd M1 for getting out of logs 3rd M1 forming and solving a linear equation $\rightarrow x = \alpha$ A1 $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$ or 0.5</p>	



Question 2 : June 05 Q2

Question number	Scheme	Marks
2.	<p>(a) $x \log 5 = \log 8, \quad x = \frac{\log 8}{\log 5}, \quad = 1.29$</p> <p>(b) $\log_2 \frac{x+1}{x} \quad (\text{or } \log_2 7x)$</p> <p>$\frac{x+1}{x} = 7 \quad x = \dots, \quad \frac{1}{6} \quad (\text{Allow } 0.167 \text{ or better})$</p>	<p>M1, A1, A1 (3)</p> <p>B1</p> <p>M1, A1 (3)</p> <p>6</p>
	<p>(a) Answer only 1.29 : Full marks. Answer only, which rounds to 1.29 (e.g. 1.292): M1 A1 A0 Answer only, which rounds to 1.3 : M1 A0 A0 Trial and improvement: Award marks as for “answer only”.</p> <p>(b) M1: Form (by legitimate log work) and solve an equation in x. Answer only: No marks unless verified (then full marks are available).</p>	

Question 3 : June 06 Q3

Question number	Scheme	Marks
3.	<p>(i) 2</p> <p>(ii) $2 \log 3 = \log 3^2 \quad (\text{or } 2 \log p = \log p^2)$</p> <p>$\log_a p + \log_a 11 = \log_a 11p, \quad = \log_a 99 \quad (\text{Allow e.g. } \log_a (3^2 \times 11))$</p>	<p>B1 (1)</p> <p>B1</p> <p>M1, A1 (3)</p> <p>4</p>
	<p>(ii) Ignore ‘missing base’ or wrong base. The correct answer with no working scores full marks. $\log_a 9 \times \log_a 11 = \log_a 99$, or similar mistakes, score M0 A0.</p>	



Question 4 : Jan 07 Q4

Question Number	Scheme	Marks
4.	$x \log 5 = \log 17$ or $x = \log_5 17$ $x = \frac{\log 17}{\log 5}$ $= 1.76$	M1 A1 A1 (3)

Notes N.B. It is never possible to award an A mark after giving M0. If M0 is given then the marks will be M0 A0 A0.

4	
Acceptable alternatives include $x \log 5 = \log 17$; $x \log_{10} 5 = \log_{10} 17$; $x \log_e 5 = \log_e 17$; $x \ln 5 = \ln 17$; $x = \log_5 17$ Can be implied by a correct exact expression as shown on the first A1 mark	1st M1
An exact expression for x that can be evaluated on a calculator. Acceptable alternatives include $x = \frac{\log 17}{\log 5}$; $x = \frac{\log_{10} 17}{\log_{10} 5}$; $x = \frac{\log_e 17}{\log_e 5}$; $x = \frac{\ln 17}{\ln 5}$; $x = \frac{\log_q 17}{\log_q 5}$ where q is a number This may not be seen (as, for example, $\log_5 17$ can be worked out directly on many calculators) so this A mark can be implied by the correct final answer or the right answer corrected to or truncated to a greater accuracy than 3 significant figures or 1.8 Alternative: $x = \frac{\text{a number}}{\text{a number}}$ where this fraction, when worked out as a decimal rounds to 1.76. (N.B. remember that this A mark cannot be awarded without the M mark). If the line for the M mark is missing but this line is seen (with or without the $x =$) and is <u>correct</u> the method can be assumed and M1 1st A1 given.	1st A1
1.76 cao	2nd A1
N.B. $\sqrt[5]{17} = 1.76$ and $x^5 = 17, \therefore x = 1.76$ are both M0 A0 A0	
Answer only 1.76: full marks (M1 A1 A1) Answer only to a greater accuracy but which rounds to 1.76: M1 A1 A0 (e.g. 1.760, 1.7603, 1.7604, 1.76037 etc) Answer only 1.8: M1 A1 A0 Trial and improvement: award marks as for “answer only”.	



Question 5 : June 07 Q6

Question number	Scheme	Marks
	<p>(a) $x = \frac{\log 0.8}{\log 8}$ or $\log_8 0.8$, $= -0.107$ Allow awrt</p> <p>(b) $2 \log x = \log x^2$</p> <p>$\log x^2 - \log 7x = \log \frac{x^2}{7x}$</p> <p>“Remove logs” to form equation in x, using the base correctly: $\frac{x^2}{7x} = 3$</p> <p>$x = 21$ (Ignore $x = 0$, if seen)</p>	<p>M1, A1 (2)</p> <p>B1</p> <p>M1</p> <p>M1</p> <p>A1cso (4)</p> <p>6</p>
	<p>(a) Allow also the ‘implicit’ answer $8^{-0.107}$ (M1 A1).</p> <p>Answer only: -0.107 or awrt: Full marks.</p> <p>Answer only: -0.11 or awrt (insufficient accuracy): M1 A0</p> <p>Trial and improvement: Award marks as for “answer only”.</p> <p>(b) <u>Alternative:</u></p> <p>$2 \log x = \log x^2$ B1</p> <p>$\log 7x + 1 = \log 7x + \log 3 = \log 21x$ M1</p> <p>“Remove logs” to form equation in x: $x^2 = 21x$ M1</p> <p>$x = 21$ (Ignore $x = 0$, if seen) A1</p> <p><u>Alternative:</u></p> <p>$\log 7x = \log 7 + \log x$ B1</p> <p>$2 \log x - (\log 7 + \log x) = 1$</p> <p>$\log_3 x = 1 + \log_3 7$ M1</p> <p>$x = 3^{(1+\log_3 7)} (= 3^{2.771...})$ or $\log_3 x = \log_3 3 + \log_3 7$ M1</p> <p>$x = 21$ A1</p> <p>Attempts using change of base will usually require the same steps as in the main scheme or alternatives, so can be marked equivalently.</p> <p><u>A common mistake:</u></p> <p>$\log x^2 - \log 7x = \frac{\log x^2}{\log 7x}$ B1 M0</p> <p>$\frac{x^2}{7x} = 3$ $x = 21$ M1(‘Recovery’), but A0</p>	



Question 6 : Jan 08 Q5

Question Number	Scheme	Marks
	<p><u>Method 1</u> (Substituting $a = 3b$ into second equation at some stage)</p> <p>Using a law of logs correctly (anywhere) e.g. $\log_3 ab = 2$ M1</p> <p>Substitution of $3b$ for a (or $a/3$ for b) e.g. $\log_3 3b^2 = 2$ M1</p> <p>Using base correctly on correctly derived $\log_3 p = q$ e.g. $3b^2 = 3^2$ M1</p> <p>First correct value $b = \sqrt{3}$ (allow $3^{1/2}$) A1</p> <p>Correct method to find other value (dep. on at least first M mark) M1</p> <p>Second answer $a = 3b = 3\sqrt{3}$ or $\sqrt{27}$ A1</p> <p><u>Method 2</u> (Working with two equations in $\log_3 a$ and $\log_3 b$)</p> <p>" Taking logs" of first equation and " separating" $\log_3 a = \log_3 3 + \log_3 b$ M1 $(= 1 + \log_3 b)$</p> <p>Solving simultaneous equations to find $\log_3 a$ or $\log_3 b$ M1 $[\log_3 a = 1\frac{1}{2}, \log_3 b = \frac{1}{2}]$</p> <p>Using base correctly to find a or b M1</p> <p>Correct value for a or b $a = 3\sqrt{3}$ or $b = \sqrt{3}$ A1</p> <p>Correct method for second answer, dep. on first M; correct second answer M1;A1[6] [Ignore negative values]</p>	

Notes:	<p>Answers must be exact; decimal answers lose both A marks</p> <p>There are several variations on Method 1, depending on the stage at which $a = 3b$ is used, but they should all mark as in scheme.</p> <p>In this method, the first three method marks on Epen are for</p> <p>(i) First M1: correct use of log law,</p> <p>(ii) Second M1: substitution of $a = 3b$,</p> <p>(iii) Third M1: requires using base correctly on correctly derived $\log_3 p = q$</p> <p><u>Three examples of applying first 4 marks in Method 1:</u></p> <p>(i) $\log_3 3b + \log_3 b = 2$ gains second M1 $\log_3 3 + \log_3 b + \log_3 b = 2$ gains first M1 $(2 \log_3 b = 1, \log_3 b = \frac{1}{2})$ no mark yet $b = 3^{\frac{1}{2}}$ gains third M1, and if correct A1</p> <p>(ii) $\log_3(ab) = 2$ gains first M1 $ab = 3^2$ gains third M1 $3b^2 = 3^2$ gains second M1</p> <p>(iii) $\log_3 3b^2 = 2$ has gained first 2 M marks $\Rightarrow 2 \log_3 3b = 2$ or similar type of error $\Rightarrow \log_3 3b = 1 \Rightarrow 3b = 3$ does not gain third M1, as $\log_3 3b = 1$ not derived correctly</p>	
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Question 7 : June 08 Q4

Question Number	Scheme	Marks
(a)	$x = \frac{\log 7}{\log 5}$ or $x = \log_5 7$ 1.21	M1 A1 (2)
(b)	$(5^x - 7)(5^x - 5)$ $(5^x = 7 \text{ or } 5^x = 5) \quad x = 1.2 \text{ (awrt)}$ $x = 1$	M1 A1 A1 ft B1 (4) (6 marks)



Question 8 : Jan 09 Q4

Question Number	Scheme	Marks
	$2\log_5 x = \log_5(x^2), \quad \log_5(4-x) - \log_5(x^2) = \log_5 \frac{4-x}{x^2}$ $\log\left(\frac{4-x}{x^2}\right) = \log 5 \quad 5x^2 + x - 4 = 0 \text{ or } 5x^2 + x = 4 \text{ o.e.}$ $(5x-4)(x+1) = 0 \quad x = \frac{4}{5} \quad (x = -1)$	B1, M1 M1 A1 dM1 A1 (6) [6]
Notes	<p>B1 is awarded for $2\log x = \log x^2$ anywhere. M1 for correct use of $\log A - \log B = \log \frac{A}{B}$ M1 for replacing 1 by $\log_k k$. A1 for correct quadratic $(\log(4-x) - \log x^2 = \log 5 \Rightarrow 4-x-x^2 = 5 \text{ is B1M0M1A0 M0A0})$ dM1 for attempt to solve quadratic with usual conventions. (Only award if previous two M marks have been awarded) A1 for 4/5 or 0.8 or equivalent (Ignore extra answer).</p>	
Alternative 1	$\log_5(4-x) - 1 = 2\log_5 x \text{ so } \log_5(4-x) - \log_5 5 = 2\log_5 x$ $\log_5 \frac{4-x}{5} = 2\log_5 x$ then could complete solution with $2\log_5 x = \log_5(x^2)$ $\left(\frac{4-x}{5}\right) = x^2 \quad 5x^2 + x - 4 = 0$ Then as in first method $(5x-4)(x+1) = 0 \quad x = \frac{4}{5} \quad (x = -1)$	M1 M1 B1 A1 dM1 A1 (6) [6]
Special cases	<p>Complete trial and error yielding 0.8 is M3 and B1 for 0.8 A1, A1 awarded for each of two tries evaluated. i.e. 6/6 Incomplete trial and error with wrong or no solution is 0/6 Just answer 0.8 with no working is B1 If log base 10 or base e used throughout - can score B1M1M1A0M1A0</p>	


Question 9 : June 09 Q8

Question Number	Scheme	Marks
Q (a)	$\log_2 y = -3 \Rightarrow y = 2^{-3}$ $y = \frac{1}{8}$ or 0.125	M1 A1 (2)
(b)	$32 = 2^5$ or $16 = 2^4$ or $512 = 2^9$ [or $\log_2 32 = 5 \log_2 2$ or $\log_2 16 = 4 \log_2 2$ or $\log_2 512 = 9 \log_2 2$] [or $\log_2 32 = \frac{\log_{10} 32}{\log_{10} 2}$ or $\log_2 16 = \frac{\log_{10} 16}{\log_{10} 2}$ or $\log_2 512 = \frac{\log_{10} 512}{\log_{10} 2}$] $\log_2 32 + \log_2 16 = 9$ $(\log x)^2 = \dots$ or $(\log x)(\log x) = \dots$ (May not be seen explicitly, so M1 may be implied by later work, and the base may be 10 rather than 2) $\log_2 x = 3 \Rightarrow x = 2^3 = 8$ $\log_2 x = -3 \Rightarrow x = 2^{-3} = \frac{1}{8}$	M1 A1 M1 A1 A1ft (5) [7]
(a)	M1 for <u>getting out of logs</u> correctly. If done by change of base, $\log_{10} y = -0.903\dots$ is insufficient for the M1, but $y = 10^{-0.903}$ scores M1. A1 for the <u>exact</u> answer, e.g. $\log_{10} y = -0.903 \Rightarrow y = 0.12502\dots$ scores M1 (implied) A0. <u>Correct answer</u> with no working scores both marks. <u>Allow</u> both marks for implicit statements such as $\log_2 0.125 = -3$.	
(b)	1 st M1 for expressing 32 or 16 or 512 as a power of 2, or for a change of base enabling evaluation of $\log_2 32$, $\log_2 16$ or $\log_2 512$ by calculator. (Can be implied by 5, 4 or 9 respectively). 1 st A1 for 9 (exact). 2 nd M1 for getting $(\log_2 x)^2 = \text{constant}$. The constant can be a log or a sum of logs. If written as $\log_2 x^2$ instead of $(\log_2 x)^2$, allow the M mark <u>only</u> if subsequent work implies correct interpretation. 2 nd A1 for 8 (exact). Change of base methods leading to a non-exact answer score A0. 3 rd A1ft for an answer of $\frac{1}{\text{their } 8}$. An ft answer may be non-exact. <u>Possible mistakes:</u> $\log_2(2^9) = \log_2(x^2) \Rightarrow x^2 = 2^9 \Rightarrow x = \dots$ scores M1A1(implied by 9)M0A0A0 $\log_2 512 = \log_2 x \times \log_2 x \Rightarrow x^2 = 512 \Rightarrow x = \dots$ scores M0A0(9 never seen)M1A0A0 $\log_2 48 = (\log_2 x)^2 \Rightarrow (\log_2 x)^2 = 5.585 \Rightarrow x = 5.145, x = 0.194$ scores M0A0M1A0A1ft <u>No working</u> (or 'trial and improvement'): $x = 8$ scores M0 A0 M1 A1 A0	

Question 10 : Jan 10 Q5

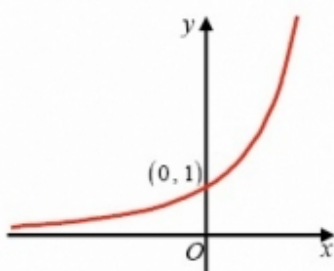
Question Number	Scheme	Marks
(a)	$\log_x 64 = 2 \Rightarrow 64 = x^2$ So $x = 8$	M1 A1 (2)
(b)	$\log_2 (11 - 6x) = \log_2 (x - 1)^2 + 3$ $\log_2 \left[\frac{11 - 6x}{(x - 1)^2} \right] = 3$ $\frac{11 - 6x}{(x - 1)^2} = 2^3$ $\{11 - 6x = 8(x^2 - 2x + 1)\}$ and so $0 = 8x^2 - 10x - 3$ $0 = (4x + 1)(2x - 3) \Rightarrow x = \dots$ $x = \frac{3}{2}, \left[-\frac{1}{4} \right]$	M1 M1 M1 A1 dM1 A1 (6) [8]
(a)	M1 for getting out of logs A1 Do not need to see $x = -8$ appear and get rejected. Ignore $x = -8$ as extra solution. $x = 8$ with no working is M1 A1	
(b)	1 st M1 for using the $n \log x$ rule 2 nd M1 for using the $\log x - \log y$ rule or the $\log x + \log y$ rule as appropriate 3 rd M1 for using 2 to the power— need to see 2^3 or 8 (May see $3 = \log_2 8$ used) If all three M marks have been earned and logs are still present in equation do not give final M1. So solution stopping at $\log_2 \left[\frac{11 - 6x}{(x - 1)^2} \right] = \log_2 8$ would earn M1M1M0 1 st A1 for a correct 3TQ 4 th dependent M1 for attempt to solve or factorize their 3TQ to obtain $x = \dots$ (mark depends on three previous M marks) 2 nd A1 for 1.5 (ignore -0.25) s.c 1.5 only – no working – is 0 marks	
(a)	<u>Alternatives</u> Change base : (i) $\frac{\log_2 64}{\log_2 x} = 2$, so $\log_2 x = 3$ and $x = 2^3$, is M1 or (ii) $\frac{\log_{10} 64}{\log_{10} x} = 2$, $\log x = \frac{1}{2} \log 64$ so $x = 64^{\frac{1}{2}}$ is M1 then $x = 8$ is A1 BUT $\log x = 0.903$ so $x = 8$ is M1A0 (loses accuracy mark) (iii) $\log_{64} x = \frac{1}{2}$ so $x = 64^{\frac{1}{2}}$ is M1 then $x = 8$ is A1	

Question 11 : June 10 Q7

Question Number	Scheme	Marks
	<p>(a) $2 \log_3(x-5) = \log_3(x-5)^2$</p> <p>$\log_3(x-5)^2 - \log_3(2x-13) = \log_3 \frac{(x-5)^2}{2x-13}$</p> <p>$\log_3 3 = 1$ seen or used correctly</p> <p>$\log_3 \left(\frac{P}{Q} \right) = 1 \Rightarrow P = 3Q \quad \left\{ \frac{(x-5)^2}{2x-13} = 3 \Rightarrow (x-5)^2 = 3(2x-13) \right\}$</p> <p>$x^2 - 16x + 64 = 0$ (*)</p>	<p>B1</p> <p>M1</p> <p>B1</p> <p>M1</p> <p>A1 cso</p> <p>(5)</p>
	<p>(b) $(x-8)(x-8) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 8$ <u>Must</u> be seen in part (b).</p> <p>Or: Substitute $x = 8$ into original equation and verify.</p> <p>Having additional solution(s) such as $x = -8$ loses the A mark.</p> <p>$x = 8$ with no working scores both marks.</p>	<p>M1 A1</p> <p>(2)</p> <p>7</p>
<p>(a) Marks may be awarded if equivalent work is seen in part (b).</p> <p>1st M: $\log_3(x-5)^2 - \log_3(2x-13) = \frac{\log_3(x-5)^2}{\log_3(2x-13)}$ is M0</p> <p>$2 \log_3(x-5) - \log_3(2x-13) = 2 \log \frac{x-5}{2x-13}$ is M0</p> <p>2nd M: <u>After the first mistake above</u>, this mark is available only if there is 'recovery' to the required $\log_3 \left(\frac{P}{Q} \right) = 1 \Rightarrow P = 3Q$. Even then the final mark (cso) is lost.</p> <p>'Cancelling logs', e.g. $\frac{\log_3(x-5)^2}{\log_3(2x-13)} = \frac{(x-5)^2}{2x-13}$ will also lose the 2nd M.</p> <p><u>A typical wrong solution:</u></p> <p>$\log_3 \frac{(x-5)^2}{2x-13} = 1 \Rightarrow \log_3 \frac{(x-5)^2}{2x-13} = 3 \Rightarrow \frac{(x-5)^2}{2x-13} = 3 \Rightarrow (x-5)^2 = 3(2x-13)$</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  (Wrong step here) </p> <p>This, with no evidence elsewhere of $\log_3 3 = 1$, scores B1 M1 B0 M0 A0</p> <p>However, $\log_3 \frac{(x-5)^2}{2x-13} = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{(x-5)^2}{2x-13} = 3$ is correct and could lead to full marks.</p> <p>(Here $\log_3 3 = 1$ is implied).</p> <p><u>No log methods shown:</u></p> <p>It is <u>not</u> acceptable to jump immediately to $\frac{(x-5)^2}{2x-13} = 3$. The only mark this scores is the 1st B1 (by generous implication).</p> <p>(b) M1: Attempt to solve the <u>given</u> quadratic equation (usual rules), so the factors $(x-8)(x-8)$ with no solution is M0.</p>		



Question 12 : Jan 11 Q8

Question Number	Scheme	Marks
(a)	<p>Graph of $y = 7^x$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and solving $7^{2x} - 4(7^x) + 3 = 0$</p>  <p>At least two of the three criteria correct. (See notes below.) All three criteria correct. (See notes below.)</p>	<p>B1 B1 (2)</p>
(b)	<p>Forming a quadratic {using "y" = 7^x}.</p> $y^2 - 4y + 3 = 0$ $\{(y-3)(y-1) = 0 \text{ or } (7^x-3)(7^x-1) = 0\}$ <p>$y = 3$, $y = 1$ or $7^x = 3$, $7^x = 1$</p> <p>$\{7^x = 3 \Rightarrow\} x \log 7 = \log 3$ or $x = \frac{\log 3}{\log 7}$ or $x = \log_7 3$</p> <p>$x = 0.5645....$ $x = 0$</p> <p>Both $y = 3$ and $y = 1$.</p> <p>A valid method for solving $7^x = k$ where $k > 0$, $k \neq 1$</p> <p>0.565 or awrt 0.56 $x = 0$ stated as a solution.</p>	<p>M1 A1 A1 dM1 A1 B1 (6) [8]</p>
Notes		
(a)	<p>B1B0: Any two of the following three criteria below correct. B1B1: All three criteria correct. Criteria number 1: Correct shape of curve for $x \geq 0$. Criteria number 2: Correct shape of curve for $x < 0$. Criteria number 3: (0, 1) stated or 1 marked on the y-axis. Allow (1, 0) rather than (0, 1) if marked in the "correct" place on the y-axis.</p>	

Question Number	Scheme	Marks
(b)	<p>1st M1 is an attempt to form a quadratic equation {using "y" = 7^x.}</p> <p>1st A1 mark is for the correct quadratic equation of $y^2 - 4y + 3 = 0$.</p> <p>Can use any variable here, eg: y, x or 7^x. Allow M1A1 for $x^2 - 4x + 3 = 0$.</p> <p>Writing $(7^x)^2 - 4(7^x) + 3 = 0$ is also sufficient for M1A1.</p> <p>Award M0A0 for seeing $7^{x^2} - 4(7^x) + 3 = 0$ by itself without seeing $y^2 - 4y + 3 = 0$ or $(7^x)^2 - 4(7^x) + 3 = 0$.</p> <p>1st A1 mark for both $y = 3$ and $y = 1$ or both $7^x = 3$ and $7^x = 1$. Do not give this accuracy mark for both $x = 3$ and $x = 1$, unless these are recovered in later working by candidate applying logarithms on these.</p> <p>Award M1A1A1 for $7^x = 3$ and $7^x = 1$ written down with no earlier working.</p> <p>3rd dM1 for solving $7^x = k$, $k > 0$, $k \neq 1$ to give either $x \ln 7 = \ln k$ or $x = \frac{\ln k}{\ln 7}$ or $x = \log_7 k$.</p> <p>dM1 is dependent upon the award of M1.</p> <p>2nd A1 for 0.565 or awrt 0.56. B1 is for the solution of $x = 0$, from <i>any</i> working.</p>	



Question 13 : June 11 Q3

Question Number	Scheme	Marks
(a)	$(a) 5^x = 10 \text{ and } (b) \log_3(x - 2) = -1$ $x = \frac{\log 10}{\log 5} \text{ or } x = \log_5 10$ $x \{= 1.430676558...\} = 1.43 \text{ (3 sf)}$	M1 1.43 A1 cao [2]
(b)	$(x - 2) = 3^{-1}$ $x \{= \frac{1}{3} + 2\} = 2\frac{1}{3}$	$(x - 2) = 3^{-1} \text{ or } \frac{1}{3}$ $2\frac{1}{3} \text{ or } \frac{7}{3} \text{ or } 2.\dot{3} \text{ or awrt } 2.33$ M1 oe A1 [2] 4
(a)	M1: for $x = \frac{\log 10}{\log 5}$ or $x = \log_5 10$. Also allow M1 for $x = \frac{1}{\log 5}$ 1.43 with no working (or any working) scores M1A1 (even if left as $5^{1.43}$). Other answers which round to 1.4 with no working score M1A0. Trial & Improvement Method: M1: For a method of trial and improvement by trialing f(value between 1.4 and 1.43) = Value below 10 and f(value between 1.431 and 1.5) = Value over 10. A1 for 1.43 cao. Note: $x = \log_{10} 5$ by itself is M0; but $x = \log_{10} 5$ followed by $x = 1.430676558...$ is M1.	
(b)	M1: Is for correctly eliminating log out of the equation. Eg 1: $\log_3(x - 2) = \log_3(\frac{1}{3}) \Rightarrow x - 2 = \frac{1}{3}$ only gets M1 when the logs are correctly removed. Eg 2: $\log_3(x - 2) = -\log_3(3) \Rightarrow \log_3(x - 2) + \log_3(3) = 0 \Rightarrow \log_3(3(x - 2)) = 0$ $\Rightarrow 3(x - 2) = 3^0$ only gets M1 when the logs are correctly removed, but $3(x - 2) = 0$ would score M0. Note: $\log_3(x - 2) = -1 \Rightarrow \log_3\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) = -1 \Rightarrow \frac{x}{2} = 3^{-1}$ would score M0 for incorrect use of logs. Alternative: changing base $\frac{\log_{10}(x - 2)}{\log_{10} 3} = -1 \Rightarrow \log_{10}(x - 2) = -\log_{10} 3 \Rightarrow \log_{10}(x - 2) + \log_{10} 3 = 0$ $\Rightarrow \log_{10} 3(x - 2) = 0 \Rightarrow 3(x - 2) = 10^0$. At this point M1 is scored. A correct answer in (b) without any working scores M1A1.	