

Precalculus Warm-Ups

Section 3.2

1. Determine whether the function is exponential decay or exponential growth. State the initial value as well as the percentage of decay or growth.

$$y = 350(.25)^x$$

Decay

Initial Value = 350

$$r = .75$$

2. A radioactive material has a half-life of 120 days. If there are 9 grams of the material initially,

- a) Write an equation representing the information.

$$f(x) = 9\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\frac{x}{120}}$$

- b) When will there be less than 1 gram of the material left?

$$y_2 = 1 \quad \approx 380 \text{ days}$$

$$(.17)^{(1/4)}$$

3. Determine a formula for an exponential equation containing the points (0, 3) and (4, 0.5)

$$y = a \cdot b^x$$

$$.5 = 3 \cdot b^4$$

$$.17 = b^4$$

$$.639 = b$$

$$f(x) = 3(.639)^x$$

4. Determine a formula for a logistic function with the following characteristics:

Limit to Growth: 40 $c = 40$

Initial Value: 10 $(0, 10)$

Passes through: (1, 20) (x, y)

$$\textcircled{1} f(0) = \frac{40}{1 + a \cdot b^0} = 10$$

$$\frac{40}{1 + a} = 10$$

$$10 + 10a = 40$$

$$a = 3$$

$$\textcircled{2} f(1) = \frac{40}{1 + 3 \cdot b^1} = 20$$

$$\frac{40}{1 + 3b} = 20$$

$$20 + 60b = 40$$

$$b = .33$$

$$f(x) = \frac{40}{1 + 3(.33)^x}$$

5. The population of Mathtown, USA is 475,000 and is increasing at a rate of 3.75% each year. Find an equation to represent this scenario and use it to predict when the population will reach 1 million.

$$P(t) = 475,000(1.0375)^t$$

$$y_2 = 1,000,000$$

$$t \approx 20.2 \text{ years}$$

(in 20.2 years)

