Exponential Equations – Practice and Answers

Exponential equation can sometimes be solved by exploiting that one-to-one property of exponential functions. For example

$$2^{(4x-3)} = 16$$

We can solve this by first writing both sides of the equation in terms of the same base. We know $16 = 2^4$ that so re-writing

$$2^{(4x-3)} = 2^4$$

Using the one-to-one property

$$4x - 3 = 4$$
$$4x = 7$$
$$x = \frac{7}{4}$$

Solve each of the following equations by using the one-to-one property of exponential functions.

- 1) $2^{2x+1} = 8$ 5) $5^{2x} = 625$ 9) $2^{5x} = 1024$ 2) $5^{2x-1} = 125$ 6) $8^{2x} = 32$ 10) $2^{x^2} \times 3^{x^2} = 36^{x-\frac{1}{2}}$ 3) $3^{2x-1} = 81$ 7) $4^{x^2+2x+1} = 16$
- 4) $4^{3x} = 128$ 8) $9^{6x} = 243$

Answers

1) $x = 1$	6) $x = \frac{5}{6}$
2) $x = 2$	7) $x = -1 \pm \sqrt{2}$
3) $x = \frac{5}{2}$	8) $x = \frac{5}{12}$
4) $x = \frac{7}{6}$	9) $x = 2$
5) $x = 2$	10) $x = 1$