



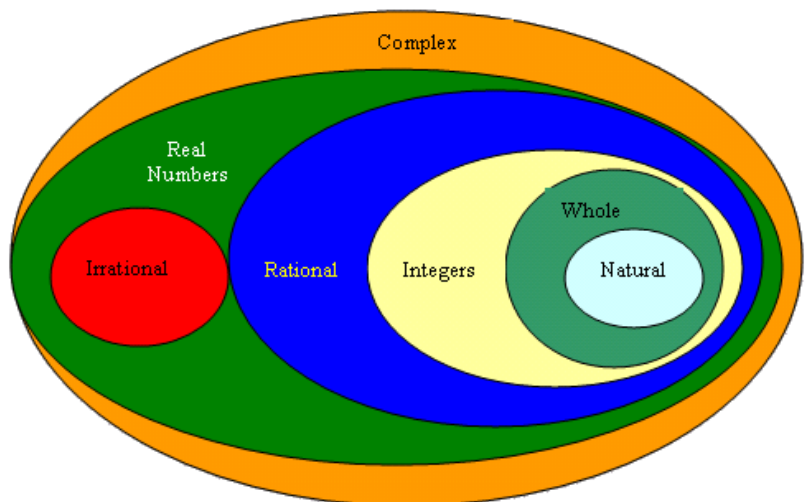
# Sets & Functions

SPTA Mathematics - Higher Notes



## Sets:

- A **SET** refers to a group of elements (entries) that are linked in some way.
  - These symbols mean;  $\in$  “is a member of”,  $\notin$  “is NOT a member of” and  $\subseteq$  “is a subset of”
  - $\{ \}$  – curly brackets are used to define sets.
  - There are 5 basic number sets used in Maths and 2 more advanced that you need to be aware of:
    1.  $\mathbb{N}$  – **NATURAL** numbers:  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, \dots\}$
    2.  $\mathbb{W}$  – **WHOLE** numbers:  $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, \dots\}$
    3.  $\mathbb{Z}$  – **INTEGER** numbers:  $\{\dots, -5, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots\}$
    4.  $\mathbb{Q}$  – **RATIONAL** numbers: Includes all integers, plus any number which can be written as a fraction.
    5.  $\mathbb{R}$  – **REAL** numbers: Includes all rational numbers, and irrational numbers
    6.  $\mathbb{I}$  – **IRRATIONAL** numbers: Any number which cannot be written as a fraction such as  $\sqrt{7}$  or  $\pi$
    7.  $\mathbb{C}$  – **COMPLEX** numbers: a **number** that can be expressed in the form  $a + bi$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are real **numbers** and  $i$  is the imaginary unit, satisfying the equation  $i^2 = -1$
- Complex numbers are NOT in the Higher.
- A VENN DIAGRAM can be used to show the link between all these sets:

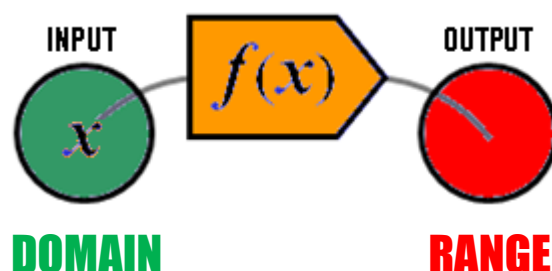


## Functions:

- We have already looked at function calculations in National 5.
- A **FUNCTION** is a mathematical rule which takes a value in, carries out a process on that value and gives out a result.
- **FUNCTION NOTATION**:  $f(x)$  read as “ $f$  of  $x$ ” where  $x$  is the number going into the function.
- Functions can be called anything, with the most common being;  $f(x)$ ,  $g(x)$ ,  $h(x)$ ,  $k(x)$ , etc

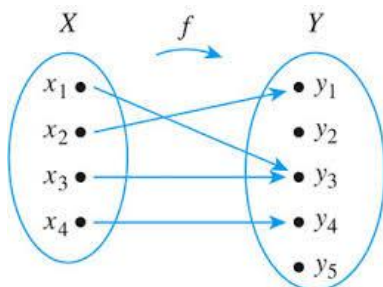
**Now attempt Exercise 1 from the Functions booklet**

- A diagram can be used to explain what a Function is, as shown below:



- In Maths the INPUT is called the **DOMAIN** and the OUTPUT is known as the **RANGE**.
- Every element in the DOMAIN must match with **EXACTLY ONE** element in the RANGE.

The arrow diagram below show what a function looks like:



Set  $X$  is the DOMAIN

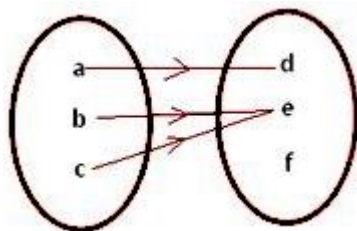
Set  $Y$  is the RANGE.

This is a Function as every element in the Domain is mapped to exactly one element in the Range.

## Examples:

1. State whether these diagrams represent functions or not and give a reason:

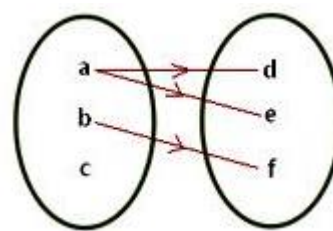
a)



**FUNCTION**

Every element in the Domain maps to exactly one element in the Range. The fact that elements “b & c” map to the same element is not an issue!!

(b)

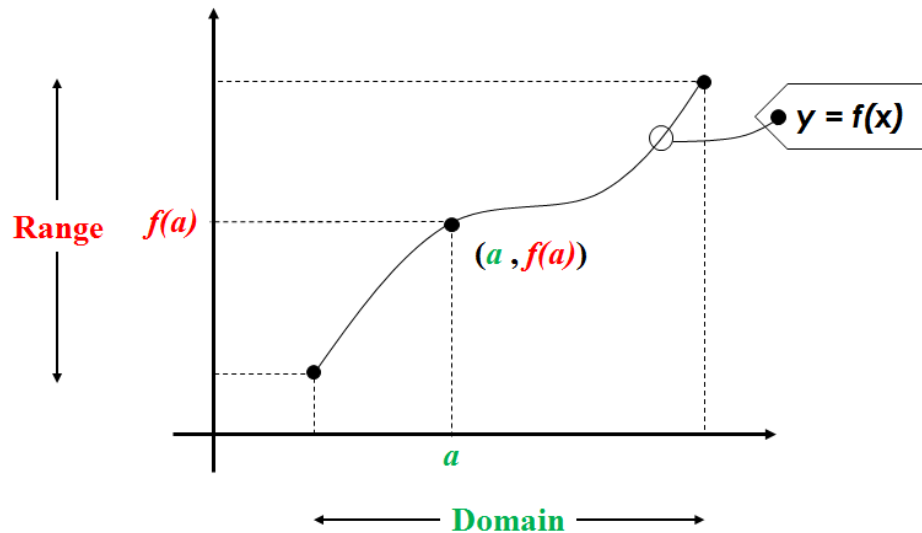


**NOT A FUNCTION**

Element “c” in the Domain doesn’t map to any element in the Range and element “a” maps to 2 elements hence not a function!

## Graphs of Functions:

- Graphs of a function can be drawn by making  $y = f(x)$ .
- The  $x$ -axis is the Domain and the  $y$ -axis is the Range.
- To determine whether or not a graph represents a function we can use the vertical line test:
  - Draw a Vertical Line
  - If it intersects with the Graph at one point only it's a Function
  - If it intersects at more than one point its NOT a Function.
- A Graph of a Function is shown below:

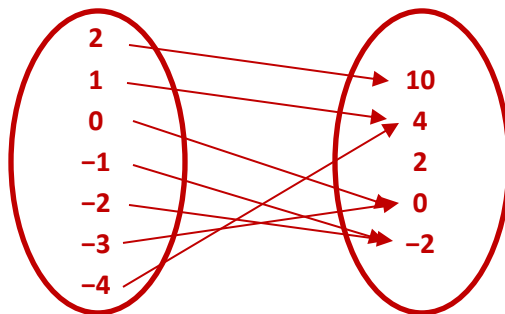


## Examples:

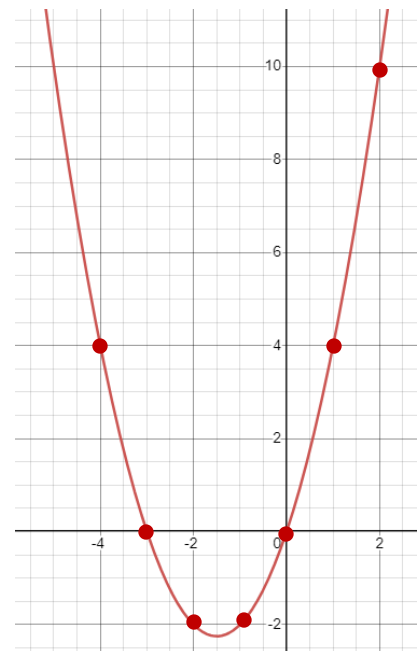
2.  $g(x) = x^2 + 3x$  where  $x \in \{-4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2\}$

a) State the Range.  $g(x) \in \{-2, 0, 4, 10\}$

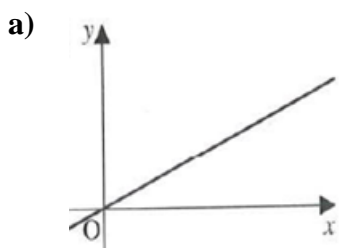
b) Draw an arrow diagram



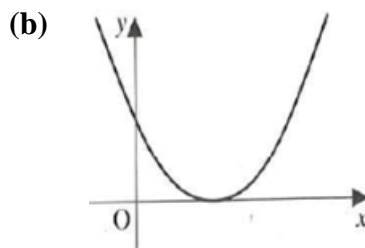
c) Draw a Graph of the function.



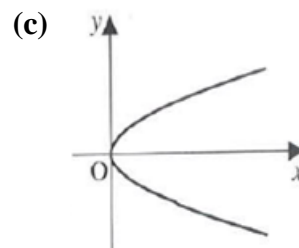
3. Which of the following graphs below represent functions?



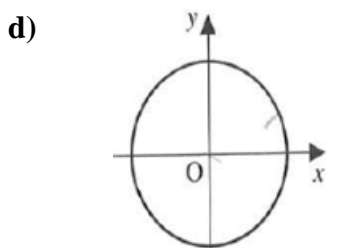
**FUNCTION**



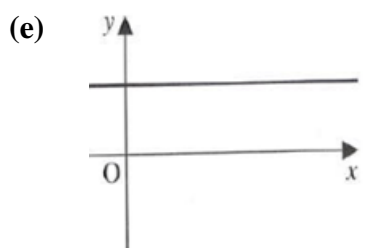
**FUNCTION**



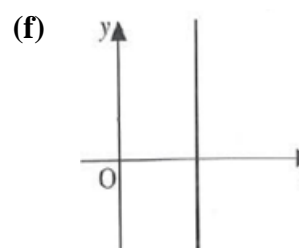
**NOT a FUNCTION**



**NOT a FUNCTION**



**FUNCTION**



**NOT a FUNCTION**

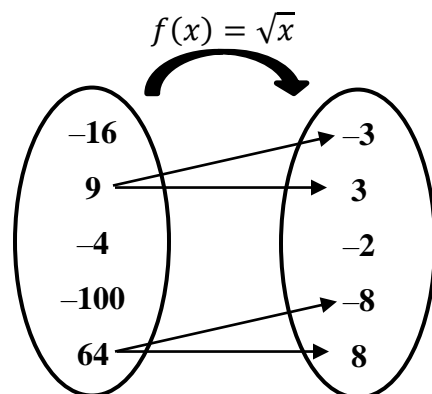
## Restrictions:

- Is  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$  a function?

Lets look at its ARROW diagram:

Without any restrictions the DOMAIN is  $x \in \mathbb{R}$   
i.e.  $x$  can take any real number as its value.

As we can see from this small sample  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$   
is **NOT a FUNCTION** as negatives cannot be  
square rooted and each positive number has 2 solutions!!!!



- We can make  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$  a function by restricting the size of the Domain and the Range.  
We need to restrict the Domain to the positive numbers:  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \geq 0\}$   
We also need to restrict the Range to the positive numbers:  $f(x) \geq 0$
- In maths it is quite normal to restrict the Domain to get a function, the Range is less common.
- Some common Domain Restrictions are:
  - You cannot square root a negative as mentioned above.
  - In a fraction you cannot divide by zero, e.g.  $f(x) = \frac{5x^2-3}{2x-8}$ ,  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \neq 4\}$
  - You cannot take a log of zero or a negative, e.g.  $f(x) = \log_a x$ ,  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x > 0\}$
  - In trig  $\tan(90)$  and  $\tan(270)$  don't exist, e.g.  $f(x) = \tan(x + 30)$ ,  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \neq 60, 240\}$

**Now attempt Exercise 2 from the Functions booklet**

## Examples:

4. Describe a suitable Domain for these functions:

a)  $f(x) = \sqrt{x-5}$

$$x - 5 \geq 0$$

$$x \geq 5$$

$$\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \geq 5\}$$

Cannot  
square  
root a  
negative

(b)  $f(x) = \frac{x+1}{x^2+x-6}$

$$x^2 + x - 6 \neq 0$$

$$(x+3)(x-2) \neq 0$$

$$x+3 \neq 0 \quad x-2 \neq 0$$

$$x \neq -3 \quad x \neq 2$$

$$\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \neq -3, 2\}$$

Cannot  
divide  
by zero

Your being asked in Question 4 above for what values does the function work. However Question 4 could be asked slightly differently to find for what values does the function NOT work as shown below:

4. For what values of  $x$  are these functions undefined?

a)  $f(x) = \sqrt{x-5}$

$$x - 5 < 0$$

$$x < 5$$

Cannot  
square  
root a  
negative

(b)  $f(x) = \frac{x+1}{x^2+x-6}$

$$x^2 + x - 6 = 0$$

$$(x+3)(x-2) = 0$$

$$x+3 = 0 \quad x-2 = 0$$

$$x = -3 \quad x = 2$$

Cannot  
divide  
by zero

As stated earlier it is not as common to restrict the RANGE as it is the DOMAIN, however you could be asked to write down the Range for a given function as shown in this example below:

5. Write down a suitable Range for the following functions:

a)  $f(x) = x^2$

When a number is squared the answer is always positive or zero so:  $f(x) \geq 0$

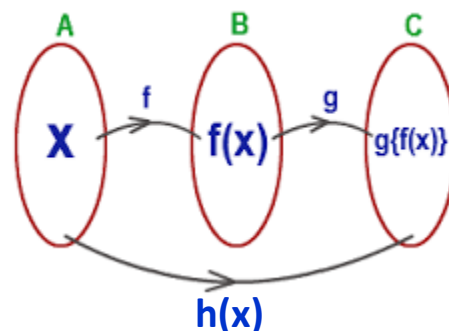
b)  $f(x) = 2\cos x$

From National 5 we know that the cos curve goes between  $-1$  &  $1$  so:  $-2 \leq f(x) \leq 2$

Now attempt Exercise 3 from the Functions booklet

## Composite Functions:

- 2 or more Functions can be combined to form a new function.
- These new functions are called **COMPOSITE FUNCTIONS**.
- If we have 2 functions,  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  then  $h(x) = f(g(x))$  &  $k(x) = g(f(x))$  are composite functions.
- We read  $f(g(x))$  as “ $f$  of  $g$  of  $x$ ” and  $g(f(x))$  as “ $g$  of  $f$  of  $x$ ”
- For **most** functions  $f(g(x))$  will **NOT** be the same as  $g(f(x))$
- Composite functions can be illustrated by an arrow diagram as shown here:



- $h(x) = f(g(x))$
- A is the DOMAIN for  $f(x)$  and  $h(x)$
- B is the RANGE for  $f(x)$  and the DOMAIN for  $g(x)$
- C is the RANGE for  $g(x)$  and  $h(x)$

## Examples:

6. If  $f(x) = 2x$  and  $g(x) = x + 15$

a) Evaluate  $f(g(3))$

$$\begin{aligned} g(3) &= 3 + 15 \\ &= 18 \\ f(g(3)) &= f(18) \\ &= 2 \times 18 \\ &= 36 \end{aligned}$$

(b) Find a formula for  $h(x) = f(g(x))$

$$\begin{aligned} h(x) &= f(g(x)) \\ &= f(x + 15) \\ &= 2(x + 15) \\ &= 2x + 30 \end{aligned}$$

7. If  $f(x) = x^2$  and  $g(x) = x + 3$

a) Evaluate  $f(g(5))$

$$\begin{aligned} g(5) &= 5 + 3 \\ &= 8 \\ f(g(5)) &= f(8) \\ &= 8^2 \\ &= 64 \end{aligned}$$

(b) Find a formula for  $f(g(x))$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= f(x + 3) \\ &= (x + 3)^2 \\ &= x^2 + 6x + 9 \end{aligned}$$

c) Evaluate  $g(f(5))$

$$\begin{aligned} f(5) &= 5^2 \\ &= 25 \\ g(f(5)) &= g(25) \\ &= 25 + 3 \\ &= 28 \end{aligned}$$

(d) Find a formula for  $g(f(x))$

$$\begin{aligned} g(f(x)) &= g(x^2) \\ &= x^2 + 3 \end{aligned}$$

Not the same!!!

Now attempt Exercise 4A from the Functions booklet

8. If  $f(x) = x^2 + 3$  and  $g(x) = 2x - 5$ , Find a formula for:

a)  $f(g(x))$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= f(2x - 5) \\ &= (2x - 5)^2 + 3 \\ &= 4x^2 - 20x + 25 + 3 \\ &= 4x^2 - 20x + 28 \end{aligned}$$

(b)  $f(f(x))$

$$\begin{aligned} f(f(x)) &= f(x^2 + 3) \\ &= (x^2 + 3)^2 + 3 \\ &= x^4 + 6x^2 + 9 + 3 \\ &= x^4 + 6x^2 + 12 \end{aligned}$$

c)  $g(f(x))$

$$\begin{aligned} g(f(x)) &= g(x^2 + 3) \\ &= 2(x^2 + 3) - 5 \\ &= 2x^2 + 6 - 5 \\ &= 2x^2 + 1 \end{aligned}$$

(d)  $g(g(x))$

$$\begin{aligned} g(g(x)) &= g(2x - 5) \\ &= 2(2x - 5) - 5 \\ &= 4x - 10 - 5 \\ &= 4x - 15 \end{aligned}$$

9. If  $f(x) = \frac{7}{2x^2 - 8}$  and  $g(x) = x + 3$ , Find a formula for:

a)  $f(g(x))$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= f(x + 3) \\ &= \frac{7}{2(x+3)^2 - 8} \\ &= \frac{7}{2(x^2 + 6x + 9) - 8} \\ &= \frac{7}{2x^2 + 12x + 18 - 8} \\ &= \frac{7}{2x^2 + 12x + 10} \end{aligned}$$

(b) State a suitable DOMAIN for  $f(g(x))$

$$\begin{aligned} 2x^2 + 12x + 10 &\neq 0 \\ x^2 + 6x + 5 &\neq 0 \\ (x + 5)(x + 1) &\neq 0 \\ x + 5 &\neq 0 \text{ or } x + 1 \neq 0 \\ x &\neq -5 \text{ or } x \neq -1 \\ \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x &\neq -5, -1\} \end{aligned}$$

10. If  $f(x) = 2x + 5$  and  $g(x) = \cos x$ , Find a formula for:

a)  $f(g(x))$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= f(\cos x) \\ &= 2(\cos x) + 5 \end{aligned}$$

(b)  $g(f(x))$

$$\begin{aligned} g(f(x)) &= g(2x + 5) \\ &= \cos(2x + 5) \end{aligned}$$

11. If  $f(x) = \frac{x}{x-1}$ , Find a formula for  $f(f(x))$

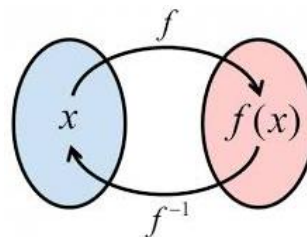
$$\begin{aligned}
 f(f(x)) &= f\left(\frac{x}{x-1}\right) \\
 &= \frac{\left(\frac{x}{x-1}\right)}{\left(\frac{x}{x-1}\right)-1} \xrightarrow{\quad} \frac{x}{x-1} - 1 = \frac{x}{x-1} - \frac{1}{1} \\
 &= \frac{\frac{x}{x-1}}{\frac{1}{x-1}} \xleftarrow{\quad} = \frac{x}{x-1} - \frac{x-1}{x-1} \\
 &= \frac{x}{x-1} \div \frac{1}{x-1} = \frac{x-(x-1)}{x-1} \\
 &= \frac{x}{x-1} \times \frac{x-1}{1} = \frac{1}{x-1} \\
 &= \frac{x(x-1)}{x-1} \\
 &= x
 \end{aligned}$$

Now attempt Exercise 4B from the Functions booklet

## Inverse Functions:

- An **INVERSE FUNCTION** is the opposite or reverse of the original function.
- A function has an inverse function if it is a **one to one correspondence**, i.e. each term in the domain matches to exactly one term in the range and vice versa.
- The inverse function of  $f(x)$  is denoted as  $f^{-1}(x)$ .
- If a number,  $x$ , is put into a function  $f(x)$  followed by  $f^{-1}(x)$  then the result will just be  $x$  again.

This can be shown in a diagram as follows:



- Finding the inverse of a function is the same process as changing the subject from National 5.
- The Graph of an inverse function is a reflection of the original in the line  $y = x$ .



## Examples:

12. If  $f(x) = 2x + 4$ , Find the inverse function  $f^{-1}(x)$

$$f(x) = 2x + 4$$

$$y = 2x + 4$$

Replace  $f(x)$  with  $y$

$$y - 4 = 2x$$

$$\frac{y-4}{2} = x$$

Change the subject to  $x$

$$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x-4}{2}$$

Replace  $x$  with  $f^{-1}(x)$  and  $y$  with  $x$

You can check your answer by subbing in any number to see if you return to the start again as follows:

$$f(3) = 2(3) + 4$$

$$f(3) = 6 + 4$$

$$f(3) = 10$$

$$f^{-1}(10) = \frac{10-4}{2}$$

$$f^{-1}(10) = \frac{6}{2}$$

$$f^{-1}(10) = 3$$

What we started with  
so inverse is correct

13. If  $f(x) = \frac{x^2-5}{4}$ , Find the inverse function  $f^{-1}(x)$

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2-5}{4}$$

$$y = \frac{x^2-5}{4}$$

$$4y = x^2 - 5$$

$$4y + 5 = x^2$$

$$\sqrt{4y + 5} = x$$

$$f^{-1}(x) = \sqrt{4x + 5}$$

14. If  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x+1}$  and  $g(x) = \frac{1}{x} - 1$

a) Find a formula for  $f(g(x))$

$$f(g(x)) = f\left(\frac{1}{x} - 1\right)$$

$$f(g(x)) = f\left(\frac{1}{x} - 1\right)$$

$$f(g(x)) = \frac{1}{\left(\frac{1}{x} - 1\right) + 1}$$

$$f(g(x)) = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{x}}$$

$$f(g(x)) = 1 \div \frac{1}{x}$$

$$f(g(x)) = 1 \times \frac{x}{1}$$

$$f(g(x)) = x$$

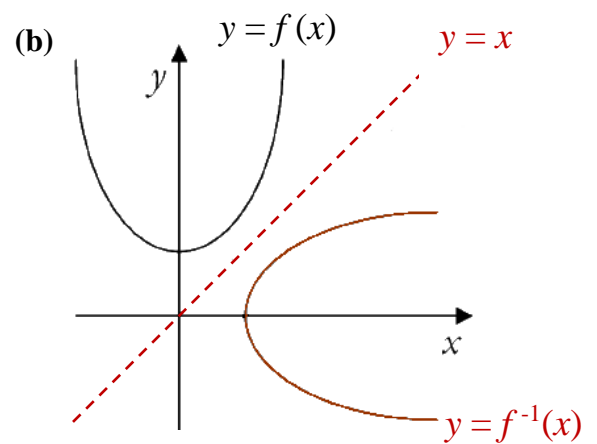
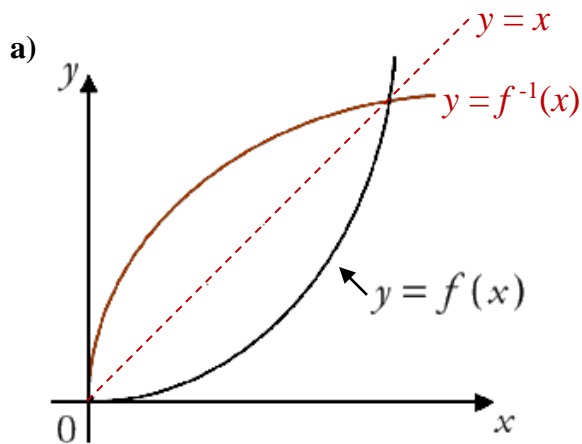
(b) State the relationship between the 2 functions

Since  $f(g(x)) = x$  the 2 functions are inverses

$$\text{i.e. } g(x) = f^{-1}(x)$$

Now attempt Exercises 5 & 6A/B from the Functions booklet

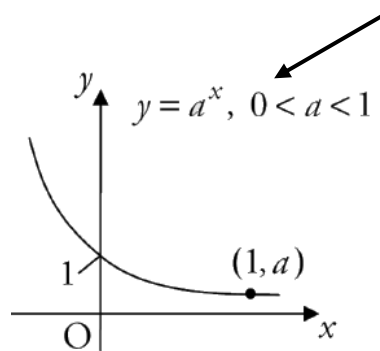
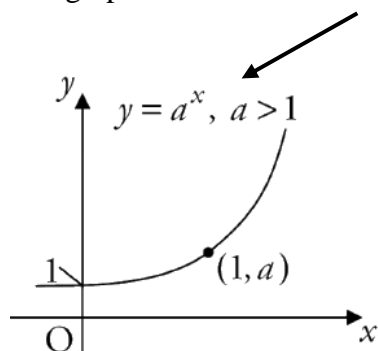
15. Sketch the inverse graph of:



Now attempt Exercise 7 from the Functions booklet

# Exponential Functions:

- An exponential equation (function) to the base  $a$  is in the form:  $y = a^x$  (or  $f(x) = a^x$ ),  $a > 0$
- When  $x = 0$  then  $y = a^0 = 1$  and when  $x = 1$  then  $y = a^1 = a$  hence the graph of an exponential will always pass through the 2 points:  $(0, 1)$  and  $(1, a)$ . Must learn
- If  $a > 1$  then the graph is called a GROWTH curve and when  $0 < a < 1$  it is called a DECAY curve:

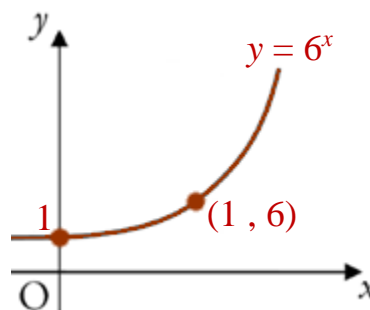


- The graph gets very close to the  $x$ -axis, but never touches it. The  $x$ -axis is said to be an ASYMPTOTE to the curve.
- If we know 2 points on the graph we can find the equation of the curve.
- $f(x) = e^x$  is called the exponential function to the base  $e$ . It is sometimes written as  $\exp(x)$ .
- Your calculator will have an  $e^x$  button, usually above the  $\ln$  button(see logarithms below).
- The constant  $e = 2.718281828...$  is an important number in Maths and like  $\pi$  it is irrational.

## Examples:

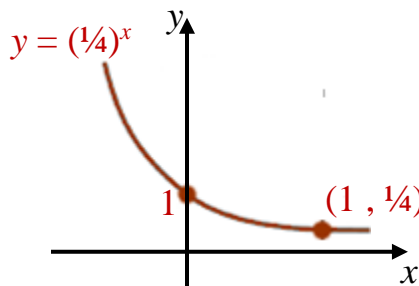
16. Sketch the curve  $y = 6^x$

Since  $a = 6$  the graph passes through the points:  $(0, 1)$  and  $(1, 6)$



17. Sketch the curve  $y = (1/4)^x$

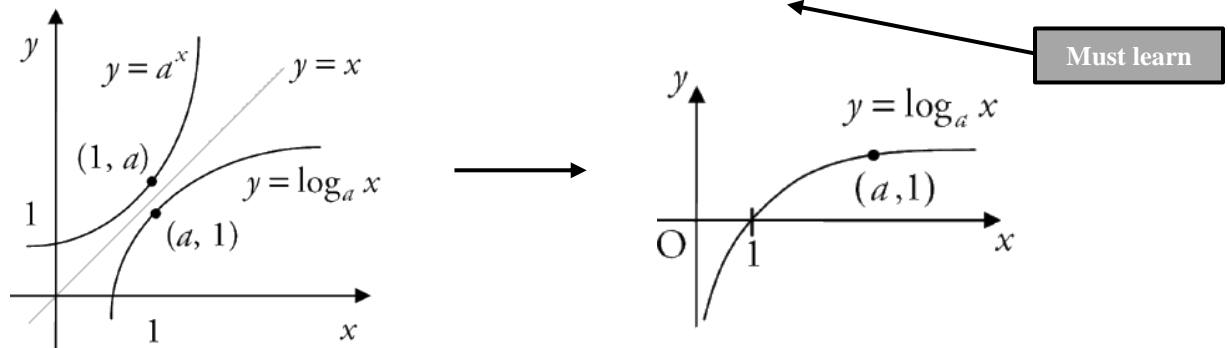
Since  $a = 1/4$  the graph passes through the points:  $(0, 1)$  and  $(1, 1/4)$



Now attempt Exercise 8 from the Functions booklet

## Logarithmic Functions:

- A Logarithmic equation(function), shortened to *Log*, is the inverse of an exponential function.
- A *Log* equation (function) to the base  $a$  is written in the form:  $y = \text{Log}_a x$  (or  $f(x) = \text{Log}_a x$ ),  $a > 0$ .
- As it is the inverse of exponentials its graph is the reflection of a GROWTH curve in the line  $y = x$ .
- Hence a *Log* curve will always pass through the points:  $(1, 0)$  and  $(a, 1)$  as shown below:



- The graph gets very close to the  $y$ -axis, but never touches it. The  $y$ -axis is said to be an ASYMPTOTE to the curve.
- In general:  $\text{Log}_a 1 = 0$  (*Log* to any base of 1 is zero) and  $\text{Log}_a a = 1$  (*Log* to base  $a$  of  $a$  is one).
- If we know 2 points on the graph we can find the equation of the curve.
- The *Log* key on your calculator is to the base 10, i.e.  $\text{Log}_{10}$
- $\text{Log}_e$ , usually written as  $\ln$ , is called the NATURAL LOGARITHM and is also on the calculator.

## Examples:

18. Sketch the curve  $y = \text{Log}_6 x$

Since  $a = 6$  the graph passes through the points:  $(1, 0)$  and  $(6, 1)$

