



Zombieland Mathematics

On June 30, 2035, a sleeper cell of zombies executed an evil plan 10 years in the making. Their objective: to "turn" the entire human race into evil zombies! The zombie population **triples** by the end of each day, but they are not sure how long it will take to completely turn every human on the planet.

- 1) Complete the table below to track how many total zombies there are at the end of each day from Day 1 to Day 10. The original sleeper cell had 5 members.

Day	Total Number of Zombies	Day	Total Number of Zombies
0	5	6	3645
1	$5(3) = 15$	7	10935
2	$5(3)(3) = 45$	8	32805
3	$5(3)(3)(3) = 135$	9	98415
4	$5(3)(3)(3)(3) = 405$	10	295245
5	1215	x	$5(3)^x$

- 2) Does the Total Number of Zombies seem to increase following a linear model? Explain.

No, it is not increasing by the same # each day

- 3) Write an equation that models the total number of Zombies, y , at the end of any given day, x . Use the equation to complete the table above.

$$y = 5(3)^x$$

- 4) Use the equation from #3 to determine the total number of zombies after each of the following days. Show your work.

12th day:

$$y = 5(3)^{12}$$

2,657,205
zombies

14th day:

$$y = 5(3)^{14}$$

23,914,845
zombies

16th day:

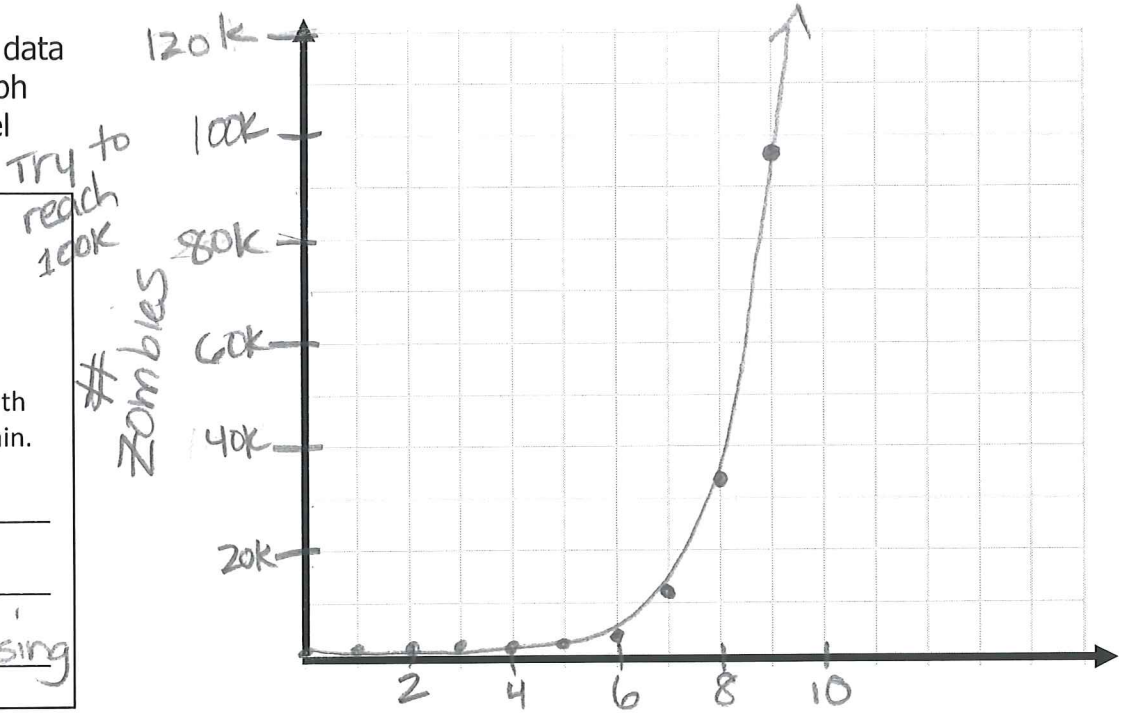
$$y = 5(3)^{16}$$

215,233,605
zombies

5) Sketch a graph of the data for days 1-10 on the graph provided. Be sure to label your axes!

What is the y-intercept?
(0, 5)

Does this graph appear to represent exponential growth or exponential decay? Explain.
exponential growth; # of zombies increasing



6) Estimate the **number of zombies we would need to start with** if we assume the population of the world is 10,000,000,000 and the zombies want to take over the world in 14 days? (Hint: set up an equation)

$$\frac{10,000,000,000}{3^{14}} = \frac{W}{3^0} \cdot 3^{14}$$

$$W = 2090.7 \rightarrow 2091 \text{ zombies}$$

7) **Suppose the original sleeper cell had 25 zombies, and all other facts were the same.**
 a. Write an equation for the situation described.

$$y = (25)(3)^x$$

b. How would the new situation affect our table values compared to the situation described of the front of the handout? How would it affect the graph?

They would be 5 times the original values. The graph would move up.

8) **Suppose the zombie population doubled by the end of each day, instead of tripled, and all other facts were the same.**
 a. Write an equation for the situation described.

$$y = (2)(3)^x$$

b. How would the new situation affect our table values compared to the situation described of the front of the handout? How would it affect the graph?

They would be less, $\frac{2}{3}$ of the original values. The graph would move down.