

GGG - Inv. 4.2 Notes

$y = (\text{decay factor}^x) \cdot (\text{y-intercept})$ - Used for exponential decay

$y = (\% \text{ remaining as a decimal}^x) \cdot (\text{y-intercept})$

Exponential Decay: An exponential pattern where the quantity **decreases** at each stage by a constant factor.

Decay Factor: This is the amount multiplied by each time. It is expressed as a fraction.
Example: The ballot size in Problem 4.1 decreased by $1/2$ with each cut.

Rate of Decay: This is the **percent of decrease**. It's always greater than 0 but less than 100%. As a decimal it's larger than 0 but smaller than 1.
Example: The ballot size in Problem 4.1 decreased 50% or 0.50 with each cut.

$$\text{Rate of Decay} = \frac{\text{Change in the data}}{\text{Starting value in the data}}$$

Example: % of change in the population = $\frac{\text{Change in the population}}{\text{Starting population}}$

TO CHANGE DECAY FACTOR TO RATE of DECAY:

Change the decay factor to a decimal then change it to a % by multiplying by 100. Then subtract 100.

Example:

Decay Factor of $2/3$

$0.67 \times 100 = 67\%$. Then $- 100 = 33\%$

So the rate of decay is 33%

TO CHANGE RATE OF DECAY TO DECAY FACTOR:

Change to a decimal by $\div 100$. Then subtract from 1.

Example:

Rate of decay of 90%

$90\% = 0.90$. Then subtract from 1.

So the decay factor is 0.1