Question 9

Ciarán is preparing food for his baby and must use cooled boiled water. The equation $y = Ae^{kt}$ describes how the boiled water cools. In this equation:

- *t* is the time, in minutes, from when the water boiled,
- *y* is the *difference* between the water temperature and room temperature at time *t*, measured in degrees Celsius,
- A and k are constants.

The temperature of the water when it boils is 100°C and the room temperature is a constant 23°C.

(a) Write down the value of the temperature difference, y, when the water boils, and find the value of A.



(b) After five minutes, the temperature of the water is 88 °C. Find the value of *k*, correct to three significant figures.



(c) Ciarán prepares the food for his baby when the water has cooled to 50°C. How long does it take, correct to the nearest minute, for the water to cool to this temperature?



(d) Using your values for A and k, sketch the curve $f(t) = Ae^{kt}$ for $0 \le t \le 100$, $t \in \mathbb{R}$.

- (e) (i) On the same diagram, sketch a curve $g(t) = Ae^{mt}$, showing the water cooling at a *faster* rate, where A is the value from part (a), and m is a constant. Label each graph clearly.
 - (ii) Suggest one possible value for m for the sketch you have drawn and give a reason for your choice.

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(f) (i) Find the rates of change of the function f(t) after 1 minute and after 10 minutes. Give your answers correct to two decimal places.

(ii) Show that the rate of change of f(t) will always increase over time.

