## **Solutions to Tutorial 1: Inequalities and Equations**

## **Basic Mastery Questions**

1. (a) 
$$x^2 \le 3 \Rightarrow x^2 - 3 \le 0 \Rightarrow \left(x - \sqrt{3}\right)\left(x + \sqrt{3}\right) \le 0 \Rightarrow -\sqrt{3} \le x \le \sqrt{3}$$

(b) 
$$x^4 \le 9 \Rightarrow x^4 - 9 \le 0 \Rightarrow (x^2 - 3)(x^2 + 3) \le 0$$
  $\Rightarrow x^2 - 3 \le 0 \text{ (since } x^2 + 3 > 0)$   
 $\Rightarrow -\sqrt{3} \le x \le \sqrt{3} \text{ (from 1(a))}$ 

(c) 
$$|x| \le 3 \Rightarrow -3 \le x \le 3$$

(d) 
$$|x+1| > 2$$
  $\Rightarrow x+1 < -2 \text{ or } x+1 > 2$   
 $\Rightarrow x < -3 \text{ or } x > 1$ 

(e) 
$$(x+1)^2 + 3 > 0$$

Since  $(x+1)^2 \ge 0$  for all real x, so  $(x+1)^2 + 3 > 0$  for all real x  $\therefore x \in \mathbb{R}$ 

(f) 
$$x^2 + 2x + 4 < 0 \Rightarrow (x+1)^2 + 3 < 0$$

Since  $(x+1)^2 \ge 0$  for all real x, so there is no real solution for x for  $(x+1)^2 + 3 < 0$ 

(g) 
$$-5 < |x+1| < 2 \Rightarrow 0 \le |x+1| < 2 \Rightarrow -2 < x+1 < 2 \Rightarrow -3 < x < 1$$

(h) 
$$|e^{2x}| > 2$$
  $\Rightarrow e^{2x} > 2$  (since  $e^{2x} > 0$  for all real  $x$ )  

$$\Rightarrow \ln(e^{2x}) > \ln 2 \Rightarrow 2x > \ln 2 \Rightarrow x > \frac{1}{2} \ln 2 \Rightarrow x > \ln \sqrt{2}$$

(i) 
$$|0.5^x| < 0.5 \Rightarrow 0 \le 0.5^x < 0.5$$
  $\Rightarrow x \ln 0.5 < \ln 0.5$   
 $\Rightarrow x > 1 \text{ (since } \ln 0.5 < 0)$ 

(j) 
$$3 < |x| < 5 \Rightarrow -5 < x < -3 \text{ or } 3 < x < 5$$

(k) 
$$9 < x^2 < 25$$
  $\Rightarrow 0 < x^2 - 9 \text{ and } x^2 - 25 < 0$   
 $\Rightarrow 0 < (x - 3)(x + 3)$  and  $(x - 5)(x + 5) < 0$   
 $\Rightarrow x < -3 \text{ or } x > 3$  and  $-5 < x < 5$ 

Taking intersection:



