

Solve for x.

$$1. 25^{(5+x)} = \left(\frac{1}{125}\right)^{2x+7} \Rightarrow (5)^{2(5+x)} = (5)^{-3(2x+7)}$$

$$\Rightarrow 10 + 2x = -6x - 21 \Rightarrow 8x = -31 \Rightarrow \boxed{x = -\frac{31}{8}}$$

$$2. 5(5^x) + 5(5^{-x}) = 26$$

$$5 \cdot (5^x)^2 + 5 = 26(5^x)$$

$$5 \cdot (5^x)^2 - 26(5^x) + 5 = 0 \Rightarrow (5 \cdot 5^x - 1)(5^x - 5) = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 5 \cdot 5^x \\ 5^x \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} -1 \\ -5 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} 5^x = \frac{1}{5} \quad \boxed{x = -1} \\ 5^x = 5 \quad \boxed{x = 1} \end{array}$$

$$3. 3^{2x} - 3(3^{x-1}) = 72$$

$$(3^x)^2 - \frac{3}{3} \cdot 3^x = 72 \Rightarrow (3^x + 8)(3^x - 9) = 0$$

$$(3^x)^2 - 3^x - 72 = 0 \quad \begin{array}{l} 3^x \neq -8 \\ 3^x = 9 \end{array} \quad \boxed{x = 2}$$

$$4. \text{Factor } 3^{2x} - 3(3^{x+1}) + 14$$

$$(3^x)^2 - 3 \cdot 3(3^x) + 14 \Rightarrow (3^x)^2 - 9(3^x) + 14$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{(3^x - 7)(3^x - 2)}$$

$$5. \text{Factor } 4^{2x+2} - 121$$

$$(4^{x+1})^2 - (11)^2 = \left([4^{x+1} - 11][4^{x+1} + 11] \right) \text{ OR } 16 \left(4^x - \frac{11}{4} \right) \left(4^x + \frac{11}{4} \right)$$

$$6. \text{Simplify } \frac{16^n - 40(8^{n-1})}{8^n}$$

$$= \frac{2^n \cdot 8^n - (40)(8^n \cdot 8^{-1})}{8^n} = \boxed{2^n - \frac{40}{8}} \Rightarrow \boxed{2^n - 5}$$