

# Math Diversion 1097

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The Axiom of Choice is obviously true; the Well Ordering  
Principle is obviously false; and who can tell  
about Zorn's Lemma?  
— Jerry Bona

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fMm3I6ctXK0>  
Title: Japanese | A Mind Blowing & Brain Buster  
Olympiad Math Problem  
Presenter: Shorif Sir

## 1 Problem

Given the relation

$$8^{x+1} + 8^{x-1} = 100, \quad (1)$$

solve for all real values of  $x$ .

## 2 Solution

Let's begin by rewriting the Given to

$$8 \cdot 8^x + 8^{-1} \cdot 8^x = 100, \quad (2)$$

which then becomes

$$(8 + 8^{-1})8^x = (65/8)8^x = 100. \quad (3)$$

Then we have

$$8^x = 800/65 = 160/13. \quad (4)$$

And lastly,

$$x = \frac{\log(160/13)}{\log 8}. \quad (5)$$