1. [7 points]

a. Give a linear approximation to the function $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$ for x near 25.

b. Use your approximation to estimate $\sqrt{24}$.

all work and use proper notation for full credit.

2. [6 points] An invasive plant species is introduced in the middle of a large flat region, and spreads outward over time in a circular pattern, with the radius growing at a rate of 2 km/year. How fast is the plant-covered area growing when the radius is 30 km? Indicate appropriate units.

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3. [6 points] A rocket is launched vertically upward, and tracked by a ground observer located 3 km from the launch pad. If the rocket is traveling 350 *km/hour* when it has reached an altitude of 4 *km*, at what rate is its distance to the observer changing at that moment? Indicate appropriate units.

4. [6 points] A population of 2 thousand cells of algae is introduced into a large vat of growing medium. After 3 days, the population has grown to 30 thousand cells. Assuming the population grows at a rate proportional to the size of the population, give a formula for the size of the population after *t* days. (Your answer may involve exponentials or logarithms but should have no unspecified constants.)