Activity- Calculating Time of Death using Algor Mortis

Important: For the first 12 hours, body loses 1.4 °F/ hour
After first 12 hours, body loses about 0.7 °F/ hour

Part A: Determine the approx. time of death using evidence from algor mortis. Show work.

1. Approximately how long has the victim been dead if his body temperature was 91.6 °F?

2. A body found outside in the winter has a temperature of 91.6 °F. Has the body been dead a longer or shorter time than in problem 1? Explain your answer.

3. Approximately how long has the victim been dead if his body temperature was 85.2 °F?

4. What is the approximate time of death if the body temperature was 60.8 °F?

5. What is the approximate time of death if the body temperature was 50 °F?

6. What is the approximate time of death if the body temperature was 84.9 °F?

7. What is the approximate time of death if the body temperature was 75 °F?

Part B

8. Describe the impact on time of death for each of the variables listed. If you based your time of death estimates strictly on temperature loss to be 10 hours earlier, would you reduce your 10-hour estimate or increase your 10-hour estimate if the body had been:
   a. Naked
   b. Exposed to windy conditions
   c. Suffering from an illness before death
   d. Submerged in a lake