When estimating the value of an exponential function, Always go a little SMALLER than your (linear) guess.

Note that the graph of the exponential function $f(x) = 2^x$ is slightly BELOW the graph of the red line (your guess) between the values of $x = 2$ and $x = 3$.

$2^2 = 4$

Estimate $2^{2.5}$

$2^{2.5} \approx \boxed{6} \rightarrow 5.7$

$2^3 = 8$

Using a Calculator: $2^{2.5} \approx 5.656854249$