

Math 108

Homework #2

Name ANSWER KEY

Due at the beginning of class Monday, February 2, 2009

Show all work neatly. Put your answers in boxes

1. Let $g(x) = x^2 - 2x$. Calculate and simplify as much as possible the difference

quotient: $\frac{g(x+h) - g(x)}{h} = \frac{(x+h)^2 - 2(x+h) - (x^2 - 2x)}{h} = \frac{x^2 + 2xh + h^2 - 2x - 2h - x^2 + 2x}{h} =$

$\frac{h(2x+h-2)}{h} = \boxed{2x+h-2}$

2. Given the functions $f(x) = \sqrt{3x+1}$ and $g(x) = x^2 + 2$, find the following:

a) $f(g(x)) = f(x^2 + 2) = \sqrt{3(x^2 + 2) + 1} = \sqrt{3x^2 + 6 + 1} = \sqrt{3x^2 + 7}$

b) $g(f(x)) = g(\sqrt{3x+1}) = (\sqrt{3x+1})^2 + 2 = 3x + 1 + 2 = 3x + 3$
($x \geq -1/3$)

3. What is the domain of each of the following functions?

a) $f(x) = 12x^5 - 9x^4 + 3x^3$ Domain = \mathbb{R} (a polynomial, no problems)

b) $g(x) = \frac{2x+1}{2x^2-32}$ Domain = $\{x \mid x \neq 4, x \neq -4\}$

Let $2x^2 - 32 = 0 = 2(x^2 - 16) = 2(x+4)(x-4)$
(solve for points to exclude). $x = -4, x = 4$

c) $f(x) = \sqrt{4-x}$ Domain = $\{x \mid x \leq 4\}$

$4 - x \geq 0$ (solve directly for domain)
 $4 \geq x$

4. Consider the points (3,1) and (1,7):

- a) What is the slope of the line through the two points?

$\frac{7-1}{1-3} = \frac{6}{-2} = -3 = m$

- b) What is the equation, in slope-intercept form, of the line through the points?

$y-1 = -3(x-3) = -3x+9$

$y = -3x+10$

or solve for b: $1 = -3(3) + b = -9 + b$

$b = 10$
 $y = -3x + 10$

- c) What is an equation (in any form) of the line through (-2, 1) and parallel to the line above?

$m = -3$, so $y-1 = -3(x-(-2)) = -3(x+2)$

or

$y-1 = -3x-6$
 $y = -3x-5$

or solve for b

$1 = -3(-2) + b = 6 + b$

$b = -5$, so $y = -3x - 5$