# Math 1431 <br> Section 16679 

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## Questions

## Quiz 1 Questions

## PT 1 Questions

## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit



## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit

What is $f(2.999999)$ really close to?


## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit

What is $f(3.0000001)$ really close to?


## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit

What do we "expect" $f(3)$ to be based on your answers to the previous two slides?


## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit

This expected value of $f(3)$ is the limit of this function as $x$ approaches 3.


## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit

Notation: $\lim _{x \rightarrow 3} f(x)=2$


## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit



## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit

What is $f(3)$ ?


## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit

What is $\lim _{x \rightarrow 3} f(x)$ ?


## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit



## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit

Notation:
The limit as $x$ approaches $a$ from the left: $\lim _{x \rightarrow a-} f(x)$
The limit as $x$ approaches $a$ from the right: $\lim _{x \rightarrow a+} f(x)$

Rule:
For a limit to exist at $x=a$, we need $\lim _{x \rightarrow a-} f(x)=\lim _{x \rightarrow a+} f(x)$

## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit

Below is the graph of $f(x)=\sin \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$. What is $\lim _{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ ?


## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit

Let's look at $f(x)=\frac{|x|}{x}$.
To graph this, it helps to know what $|x|$ means:

So, $\frac{|x|}{x}=$

## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit

$$
f(x)=\frac{|x|}{x}:
$$



## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit

Given $f(x)=\frac{|x|}{x}$, find the following limits:
(1) $\lim _{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$
(2) $\lim _{x \rightarrow-3} f(x)$
(3) $\lim _{x \rightarrow 0+} f(x)$
(1) $\lim _{x \rightarrow 0-} f(x)$
( $\lim _{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$

## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit

## Limits: The Main Idea

The limit of $f(x)$ as $x$ approaches the value " $a$ " gives the behavior of $f(x)$ near $x=a$. To have a limit at $a$, a function must be defined everywhere in an open interval containing $a$ (except possibly at $a$ itself) and $L$ must be a number.

We say,

$$
\lim _{x \rightarrow a} f(x)=L
$$

if and only if

$$
\lim _{x \rightarrow a-} f(x)=\lim _{x \rightarrow a+} f(x)=L
$$

## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit

Below is the graph of $f(x)=\frac{1}{x-4}$.
What is $\lim _{x \rightarrow 4+} f(x) ? \lim _{x \rightarrow 4-} f(x) ? \lim _{x \rightarrow 4} f(x)$ ?


## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit

More examples:
(1) $\lim _{x \rightarrow 5} 2 x+1$
(2) $\lim _{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x^{2}-x-6}{x-3}$
(3) $\lim _{x \rightarrow 0} \sqrt{x-6}$
(1) $\lim _{x \rightarrow 6+} \sqrt{x-6}$

## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit

So, what conditions would make a limit not exist?

## Section 1.2 - The Idea of a Limit

Express this limit in words and interpret its meaning:

$$
\lim _{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^{2}-4}{x-2}=4
$$

## Quiz 2 Examples

4. Evaluate the limit: $\lim _{x \rightarrow-4}\left(\frac{5}{x+4}\right)$

## Quiz 2 Examples

5. Evaluate the limit: $\lim _{x \rightarrow 0}\left(\frac{6 x^{2}-7 x}{x}\right)$

## Quiz 2 Examples

7. Evaluate the limit: $\lim _{x \rightarrow-4} f(x)$. Given that

$$
f(x)= \begin{cases}4 x & x<-4 \\ -16 & x>-4\end{cases}
$$

## Quiz 2 Examples

10. Evaluate the limit: $\lim _{x \rightarrow 2^{+}} f(x)$. Given that

$$
f(x)= \begin{cases}4 x+2 & x \leq 2 \\ x^{2}-x & x>2\end{cases}
$$

## Section 1.3 - Definition of Limit and Arithmetic Rules

Uniqueness of a limit
If $\lim _{x \rightarrow c} f(x)=L$ and $\lim _{x \rightarrow c} f(x)=M$ then $L=M$.

## The limit of a sum:

If $\lim _{x \rightarrow c} f(x)=L$ and $\lim _{x \rightarrow c} g(x)=M$ then $\lim _{x \rightarrow c}(f(x)+g(x))=L+M$ (provided each limit exists).

The limit of a difference:
If $\lim _{x \rightarrow c} f(x)=L$ and $\lim _{x \rightarrow c} g(x)=M$ then $\lim _{x \rightarrow c}(f(x)-g(x))=L-M$ (provided each limit exists).

## Section 1.3 - Definition of Limit and Arithmetic Rules

## The limit of a product:

If $\lim _{x \rightarrow c} f(x)=L$ and $\lim _{x \rightarrow c} g(x)=M$ then $\lim _{x \rightarrow c}(f(x) g(x))=L \cdot M$ (provided each limit exists).

## The limit of a quotient:

If $\lim _{x \rightarrow c} f(x)=L$ and $\lim _{x \rightarrow c} g(x)=M$ with $M \neq 0$, then $\lim _{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}=\frac{L}{M}$ (provided each limit exists).

## Section 1.3 - Definition of Limit and Arithmetic Rules

Note:
If $\lim _{x \rightarrow c} f(x)=L$ and $\lim _{x \rightarrow c} g(x)=M$ with $L \neq 0$ and $M=0$, then
$\lim _{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$ does not exist.

## Section 1.3 - Definition of Limit and Arithmetic Rules

Graph $f(x)=2$


What is $\lim _{x \rightarrow 4} f(x)$ ?
What is $\lim _{x \rightarrow-1} f(x)$ ?
What is $\lim _{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ ?
So, the limit of a constant function is that function:
If $f(x)=k$ then $\lim _{x \rightarrow a} k=k$

## Section 1.3 - Definition of Limit and Arithmetic Rules

Graph $f(x)=x$


What is $\lim _{x \rightarrow 4} f(x) ?$
What is $\lim _{x \rightarrow-1} f(x)$ ?
What is $\lim _{x \rightarrow 0} f(x)$ ?
So: If $f(x)=x$ then $\lim _{x \rightarrow a} x=a$

## Section 1.3 - Definition of Limit and Arithmetic Rules

What is a polynomial function?
A polynomial function is any function of the form:

$$
f(x)=a_{n} x^{n}+a_{n-1} x^{n-1}+\cdots+a_{1} x+a_{0}
$$

Where $a_{k}$ is a real number and $n$ is an integer.
Examples:
$f(x)=x^{2}-4$
$g(x)=\frac{1}{3} x^{5}+2 x^{3}-x+1$
$h(x)=3 x$

## Section 1.3 - Definition of Limit and Arithmetic Rules

Because a polynomial function is just a combination of linear functions and constants and we know that we can find the limit for linear and constant functions, we can easily find the limit of polynomial functions.

So, to find $\lim _{x \rightarrow a} P(x)$, where $P(x)$ is a polynomial function, just plug in $a$. In other words,

$$
\lim _{x \rightarrow a} P(x)=P(a)
$$

## Section 1.3 - Definition of Limit and Arithmetic Rules

What is a rational function?
A rational function, $R(x)$ is the quotient of two polynomial functions:
$R(x)=\frac{P(x)}{Q(x)}$
Recall, The limit of a quotient:
If $\lim _{x \rightarrow c} f(x)=L$ and $\lim _{x \rightarrow c} g(x)=M$ with $M \neq 0$, then $\lim _{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}=\frac{L}{M}$
So, providing $\lim _{x \rightarrow c} Q(x) \neq 0$, we can just plug in to find the answer for a limit of a rational function.

However, if $\lim _{x \rightarrow c} Q(x)=0$, we need to consider other things.

## Section 1.3 - Definition of Limit and Arithmetic Rules

Let $P(x)$ and $Q(x)$ be polynomial functions and let $a$ be a real number. Then,

$$
\lim _{x \rightarrow a} \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)}= \begin{cases}\frac{P(a)}{Q(a)} & \text { if } Q(a) \neq 0 \\ \text { undefined } & \text { if } P(a) \neq 0 \text { and } Q(a)=0\end{cases}
$$

If $P(a)$ and $Q(a)$ both equal 0 then more work is required.

## Section 1.3 - Definition of Limit and Arithmetic Rules

Techniques to evaluate limits:

- direct substitution
- cancellation
- rationalization
- algebraic simplification


## Section 1.3 - Definition of Limit and Arithmetic Rules

Examples:
(1) $\lim _{x \rightarrow-2}\left(3 x^{2}+1\right)=$
(2) $\lim _{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^{2}-2 x}{2 x+1}=$
(3) $\lim _{x \rightarrow-1} \frac{2 x^{2}-x-3}{x+1}=$

