

Solutions

Semester 1 Review – Part 2: Functions

1. Consider the function $f: x \mapsto \sqrt{x+1}$, $x \geq -1 \rightarrow y = \sqrt{x+1}$

(a) Determine the inverse function f^{-1} .

$f^{-1}(x):$
 $x = \sqrt{y+1}$
 $x^2 = y+1$

$y = x^2 - 1$ or $f^{-1}(x) = x^2 - 1$

(flip x & y and solve for y)

(b) What is the domain of f^{-1} ?

Domain of $f^{-1}(x)$ is the same as Range of $f(x)$

Range of $\sqrt{x+1}$ is $\{y | y \geq 0\}$

Domain $f^{-1}(x)$ is $\{x | x \geq 0\}$

2. Use the functions $f(x) = 2x - 3$ and $g(x) = x^2 + x$ to answer the questions below:

a) Determine the composite function $(f \circ g)(x)$

$(f \circ g)(x) = 2 \cdot g(x) - 3 = 2[x^2 + x] - 3 = 2x^2 + 2x - 3$

means Apply $g(x)$ first, then $f(x)$

b) Determine the composite function $(g \circ f)(x)$. Does this equal $(f \circ g)(x)$?

$(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x)) = (f(x))^2 + f(x) = (2x-3)^2 + (2x-3) = (2x-3)(2x-3) + (2x-3)$
 $= 4x^2 - 12x + 9 + 2x - 3$

$(g \circ f)(x) = 4x^2 - 10x + 6 \rightarrow (g \circ f)(x) \neq (f \circ g)(x)$
 order matters!

c) Evaluate $(g \circ f)(3)$

$(g \circ f)(3) = 4(3)^2 - 10(3) + 6 = 36 - 30 + 6$

$(g \circ f)(3) = 12$

or we could do $(g \circ f)(3) = g(f(3))$
 $f(3) = 2(3) - 3 = 3$
 $f(3) = 3 \rightarrow$ then $g(f(3)) = g(3) = 3^2 + 3 = 9 + 3 = 12$

3. Suppose $f(x) = ax + b$ where a and b are constants. If $f(1) = 7$ and $f(3) = -5$ then determine the values of a and b . Use a and b to calculate $f(10)$.

$f(1) = a \cdot 1 + b = 7 \rightarrow a + b = 7$
 $f(3) = a \cdot 3 + b = -5 \rightarrow 3a + b = -5$

solve a system of 2 eqns

$a + b = 7$
 $- [3a + b = -5]$

$a - 3a = 7 + 5 = 12$

$-2a = 12$

$a = -6 \rightarrow -6 + b = 7$
 $b = 13$

$f(x) = -6x + 13$

$\therefore f(10) = -6(10) + 13 = -60 + 13$

$f(10) = -47$

4. Use the function $f(x) = \frac{3}{x-1}$ to answer the following:

a) Find the axes intercepts for the function.

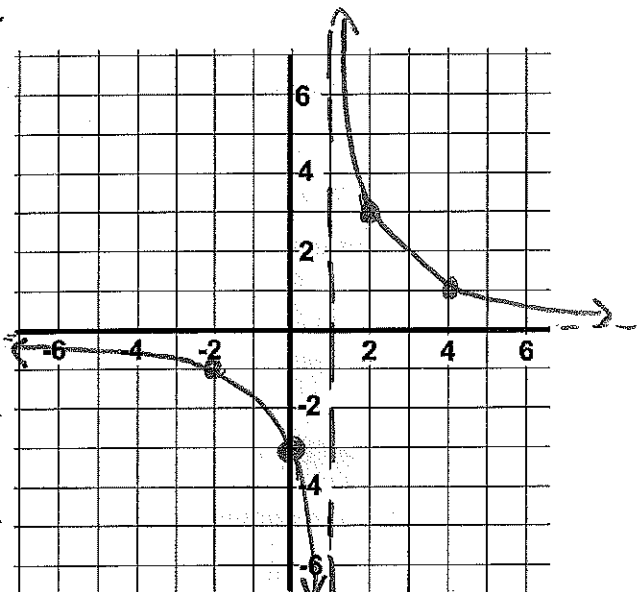
y-int: $x=0 \Rightarrow f(0) = \frac{3}{0-1} = \frac{3}{-1} = -3 \Rightarrow (0, -3)$
 x-int: $y=0 \Rightarrow \frac{3}{x-1} = 0$ This can never happen!
 \Rightarrow No x-intercepts

b) Determine the Domain and Range for $f(x)$.

Domain: $\{x \mid x \neq 1\}$

Range: $\{y \mid y \neq 0\}$

$f(1)$ Does not exist
(Divide by 0)



c) Identify all the asymptotes of this function.

Vert. Asymptote: $x=1$

Horiz. Asymptote: $y=0$

as $x \rightarrow \infty, y \rightarrow 0^+$
 as $x \rightarrow -\infty, y \rightarrow 0^-$

d) Sketch a graph of the function at the right.

find a few more pts $f(2) = \frac{3}{1} = 3, f(11) = 0.3$

e) Calculate $f^{-1}(x)$.

Swap x and y and solve for y:

$x = \frac{3}{y-1}$
 $x(y-1) = 3$

$xy - x = 3$
 $xy = 3 + x$
 (now divide by x)

$y = \frac{3+x}{x}$

or $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{3+x}{x}$

f) Evaluate $(f^{-1} \circ f)(15)$.

$(f^{-1} \circ f)(x) = x$ for all values of x in Domain of $f(x)$

This is property of inverses $\Rightarrow (f^{-1} \circ f)(15) = 15$

5. The function $f(x) = a(x-h)^2 + k$ is a quadratic function in Vertex Form. Use the following information to determine the constants $a, h,$ and k in this function.

The Axis of Symmetry is given by the equation: $x=2$ and we know $f(2) = 4$ and $f(4) = 0$.

axis of symmetry at $x=2 \rightarrow h=2$ (x-coord of vertex)

$f(2)=4$ means $(2,4)$ is a pt on the graph but $x=2$ is where vertex is
 $\Rightarrow k=4$ (y-coord of the vertex)

$\rightarrow f(x) = a(x-2)^2 + 4$ now use $f(4)=0$ to find a :

$a(4-2)^2 + 4 = 0 \rightarrow 4a + 4 = 0$
 $\rightarrow a = -1$
 $f(x) = -(x-2)^2 + 4$

6. Simplify each of the following and **do not use** any negative exponents in your final answer.

subtract exponents

a. $\frac{p^{18}}{p^{11}} =$

$= p^{18-11}$
 $= p^7$

(mult exponents)

b. $(x^{-3}y)^{-4} =$

$= x^{(-3)(-4)} \cdot y^{1(-4)}$
 $= x^{+12} \cdot y^{-4} = \frac{x^{12}}{y^4}$

c. $\frac{12x^2y^5 \cdot (xy)^0}{y^8} =$

$= \frac{12x^2y^5}{y^8}$
 $= 12x^2y^{5-8} = 12x^2y^{-3}$
 $= \frac{12x^2}{y^3}$