**Topic**: Solving with factoring

**Question**: Use factoring to find the limit.

$$\lim_{t \to -1} \frac{(t+1)(t^2 - t + 1)}{t+1}$$

## **Answer choices:**

**A** 0

B 3

C -1

 $D \infty$ 

## Solution: B

The numerator and denominator share a common factor of t+1, which can be canceled from the function.

$$\lim_{t \to -1} \frac{(t+1)(t^2 - t + 1)}{t+1}$$

$$\lim_{t \to -1} (t^2 - t + 1)$$

Now use substitution to evaluate the limit.

$$(-1)^2 - (-1) + 1$$

$$1 + 1 + 1$$

3



**Topic**: Solving with factoring

**Question**: Use factoring to find the limit.

$$\lim_{x \to 2} \frac{x^2 - 2x}{x - 2}$$

## **Answer choices:**

**A** 4

B -4

**C** 2

D -2

**Solution**: C

Factor the numerator and denominator as completely as possible.

$$\lim_{x \to 2} \frac{x^2 - 2x}{x - 2}$$

$$\lim_{x \to 2} \frac{x(x-2)}{x-2}$$

Cancel the common factor of x - 2.

$$\lim_{x\to 2} x$$

Then use direct substitution to evaluate the limit.

2



**Topic**: Solving with factoring

**Question**: Use factoring to find the limit.

$$\lim_{x \to 3} \frac{x^2 - 7x + 12}{x^2 - 9}$$

## **Answer choices:**

$$A \qquad \frac{1}{3}$$

B 
$$-\frac{1}{3}$$

$$C \qquad \frac{1}{6}$$

D 
$$-\frac{1}{6}$$

Solution: D

Factor the numerator and denominator as completely as possible.

$$\lim_{x \to 3} \frac{x^2 - 7x + 12}{x^2 - 9}$$

$$\lim_{x \to 3} \frac{(x-4)(x-3)}{(x+3)(x-3)}$$

Cancel the common factor of x - 3.

$$\lim_{x \to 3} \frac{x - 4}{x + 3}$$

Then use direct substitution to evaluate the limit.

$$\frac{3-4}{3+3}$$

$$-\frac{1}{6}$$