



Calculator Assumed
Applications of Differentiation – Curve Sketching

Time: 45 minutes
 Total Marks: 45
 Your Score: / 45

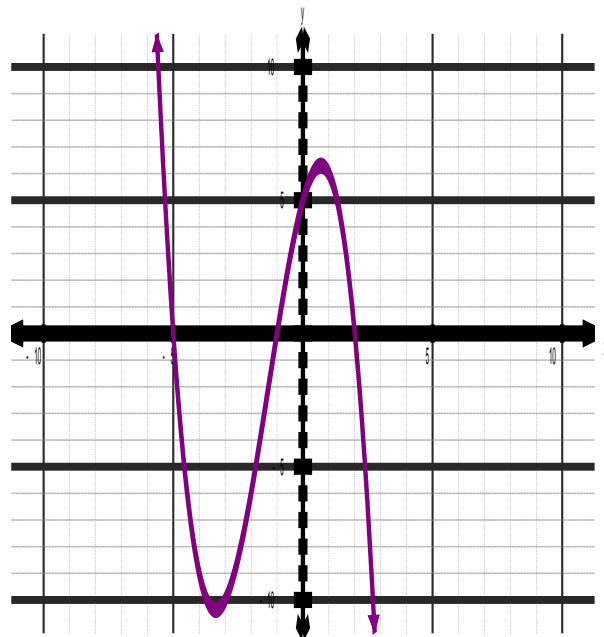
Question One: [1, 2, 2, 2, 2 = 9 marks]

Examine the graph drawn below.

(a) State the y-intercept of the function.

(b) For what values of x is the gradient zero?

(c) For what values of x is the gradient negative?



(d) State the global maximum and the local minimum over the domain $-5 \leq x < -1$

(e) On the same set of axes, sketch a possible graph of $\frac{dy}{dx}$.

Question Two: [6 marks]

A curve has equation $f(x) = -(x+2)(x-4)$. Determine the equations of the tangents to the curve at the x -intercepts.

Question Three: [6 marks]

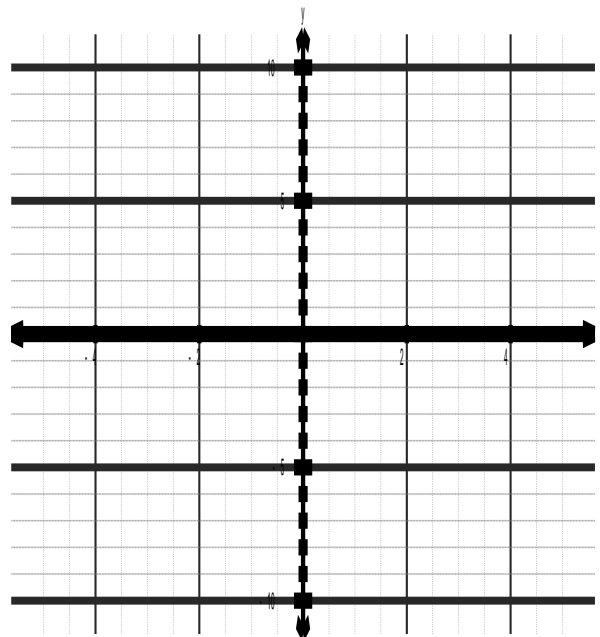
On the axes below, sketch the function with the following features:

$$f(0) = 1$$

$$f(-1) = f(5) = 0$$

$$f'(-1) = f'(3) = 0$$

$$f'(x) > 0 \text{ for } -1 < x < 2$$



Question Four: [6 marks]

Show, using calculus methods, that the function $g(x) = (x-2)^2(x+1)^3$ has stationary points at $x = -1, x = 0.8, x = 2$.

Hence state the nature of each stationary point.

Question Five: [5 marks]

The equation of the tangent to the curve $f(x) = 2x^2 - 6x + k$ at $x = 1$ is $y = mx - 3$.

Determine the value of m and k .

Question Six: [8 marks]

The graph of the function $y = 2x^3 - ax^2 + bx + c$ has a y – intercept at $(0, 10)$ and only one stationary point located at $x = \frac{1}{2}$.

Determine, using calculus methods, the values of a , b and c .

Question Seven: [5 marks]

The function $y = \frac{1}{3}x^3 - ax^2 + bx + 4$ has two stationary points, one at $x = -2$ and the other at $x = 3$.

Determine the values of a and b showing all working.



SOLUTIONS
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Question One: [1, 2, 2, 2, 2 = 9 marks]

Examine the graph drawn below.

- (a) State the y-intercept of the function.

(0,5) ✓

- (b) For what values of x is the gradient zero?

$x \approx -3.5, x \approx 0.5$

✓ ✓

- (c) For what values of x is the gradient negative?

$x < -3.5, x > 0.5$

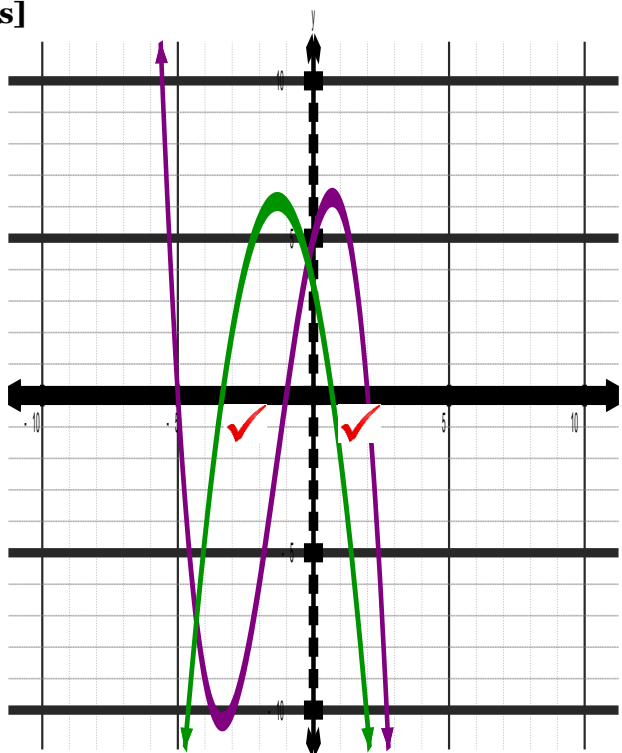
✓ ✓

- (d) State the global maximum and the local minimum over the domain $-5 \leq x < -1$

local min: -10.2 ✓

global max : 0 ✓

- (e) On the same set of axes, sketch a possible graph of $\frac{dy}{dx}$.



Question Two: [6 marks]

A curve has equation $f(x) = -(x+2)(x-4)$. Determine the equations of the tangents to the curve at the x -intercepts.

$$(-2, 0) \quad (4, 0) \quad \checkmark$$

$$f(x) = -x^2 + 2x + 8$$

$$f'(x) = -2x + 2 \quad \checkmark$$

$$f'(-2) = 6 \quad \checkmark$$

$$f'(4) = -6 \quad \checkmark$$

$$y = 6x + c$$

$$0 = 6(-2) + c$$

$$y = 6x + 12 \quad \checkmark$$

$$y = -6x + c$$

$$0 = -6(4) + c$$

$$y = -6x + 24 \quad \checkmark$$

Question Three: [6 marks]

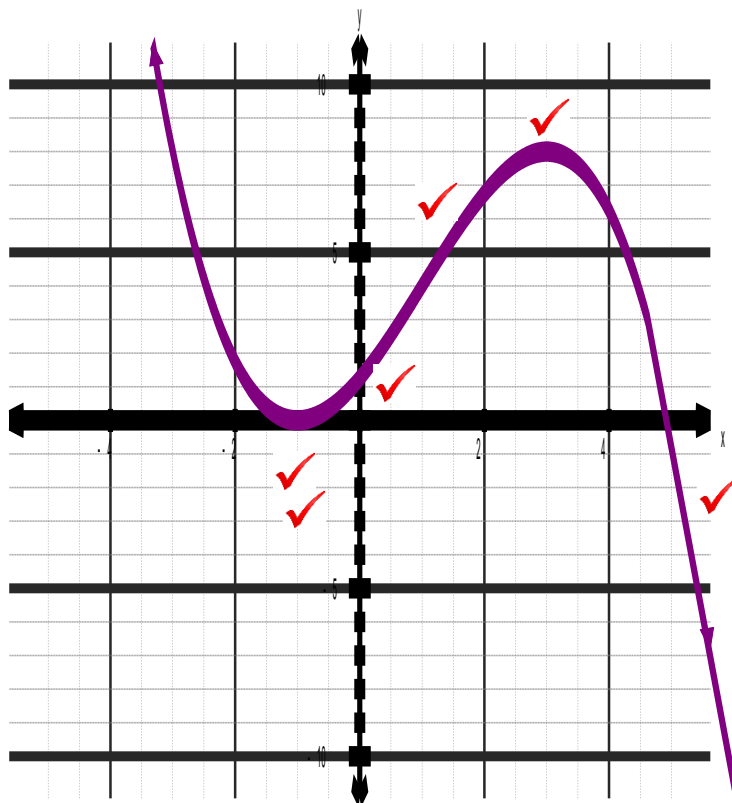
On the axes below, sketch the function with the following features:

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$$f(-1) = f(5) = 0$$

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$$f'(x) > 0 \text{ for } -1 < x < 3$$



Question Four: [6 marks]

Show, using calculus methods, that the function $g(x) = (x-2)^2(x+1)^3$ has stationary points at $x = -1, x = 0.8, x = 2$.

Hence state the nature of each stationary point.

$$g(x) = x^5 - x^4 - 5x^3 + x^2 + 8x + 4 \quad \checkmark$$

$$g'(x) = 5x^4 - 4x^3 - 15x^2 + 2x + 8$$

$$5x^4 - 4x^3 - 15x^2 + 2x + 8 = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

$$x = -1, 0.8, 2$$

$$g''(x) = 20x^3 - 12x^2 - 30x + 2 \quad \checkmark$$

$$g''(-1) = 0 \text{ horizontal point of inflection} \quad \checkmark$$

$$g''(0.8) = -19.44 \text{ max} \quad \checkmark$$

$$g''(2) = 54 \text{ min} \quad \checkmark$$

Question Five: [5 marks]

The equation of the tangent to the curve $f(x) = 2x^2 - 6x + k$ at $x = 1$ is $y = mx - 3$.

Determine the value of m and k .

$$f'(x) = 4x - 6 \quad \checkmark$$

$$f'(1) = -2 \quad \checkmark$$

$$m = -2$$

$$y = -2x - 3$$

$$y = -2(1) - 3 \quad \checkmark$$

$$y = -5 \quad \checkmark$$

$$-5 = 2(1)^2 - 6(1) + k$$

$$-1 = k \quad \checkmark$$

Question Six: [8 marks]

The graph of the function $y = 2x^3 - ax^2 + bx + c$ has a y – intercept at $(0, 10)$ and only one stationary point located at $x = \frac{1}{2}$.

Determine, using calculus methods, the values of a , b and c .

$$c = 10 \quad \checkmark$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 6x^2 - 2ax + b \quad \checkmark$$

$$6\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 - 2a\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + b = 0$$

$$-a + b = -1.5 \quad \checkmark$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 12x - 2a \quad \checkmark$$

$$x = \frac{1}{2} \quad \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

$$12\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - 2a = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

$$-2a = -6$$

$$a = 3 \quad \checkmark$$

$$-1 \times 3 + b = -1.5$$

$$b = 1.5 \quad \checkmark$$

Question Seven: [5 marks]

The function $y = \frac{1}{3}x^3 - ax^2 + bx + 4$ has two stationary points, one at $x = -2$ and the other at $x = 3$.

Determine the values of a and b showing all working.

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = x^2 - 2ax + b \quad \checkmark$$

$$(-2)^2 - 2a(-2) + b = 0$$

$$4a + b = -4 \quad \checkmark$$

$$(3)^2 - 2a(3) + b = 0$$

$$-6a + b = -9 \quad \checkmark$$

$$a = 0.5 \quad \checkmark$$

$$b = -6 \quad \checkmark$$