

Formative Quiz – Rational Functions

Part A - Multiple Choice: Clearly circle the correct answer. /6-K

1. What are the zeros of  $f(x) = \frac{(x-3)(x+2)}{x(x+5)(x-1)}$ ?

a.  $x = 3, -2, -5, 1, 0$     **c.  $x = 3, -2$**   
b.  $x = -5, 1$     d.  $x = 0, -5, 1$

2. Which of the following rational functions has a graph that is linear?

a.  $y = \frac{x+3}{x^2-5}$     **c.  $y = \frac{x^2-25}{x-5}$**   
b.  $y = \frac{x}{(x-3)^2}$     d.  $y = -\frac{2}{x}$

3. Which of the following functions has an oblique asymptote?

a.  $y = \frac{x^2-3x-4}{x^2-4}$     c.  $y = \frac{x+3}{x^2-5x-14}$   
**b.  $y = \frac{x^2-4}{x+3}$**     d.  $y = \frac{(x-3)^2}{(x-3)(x+4)}$

4. Which of the following functions has a vertical asymptote at  $x=2$  and a horizontal asymptote of  $y=1$ ?

a.  $y = \frac{x^2-6x+9}{x^2+3x+2}$     c.  $y = \frac{x+3}{x^2-4}$   
b.  $y = \frac{3}{x-2}$     **d.  $y = \frac{x^2-9}{x^2-4x+4}$**

5. Which of the following statements is false for the function  $f(x) = \frac{g(x)}{h(x)}$  where both  $g$  and  $h$  are polynomial functions?

a. It is possible to have both a vertical asymptote and a horizontal asymptote.  
**b. It is possible to have both an oblique asymptote and a horizontal asymptote.**  
c. It is possible to have both a vertical asymptote and an oblique asymptote.  
d. It is possible to have no vertical asymptote

6. Over what interval(s) is the graph of the rational function decreasing?

a.  $x \in (-2, 4)$   
**b.  $x \in (1, 4) \cup (4, \infty)$**   
c.  $x \in (-\infty, -2) \cup (-2, 1)$   
d.  $x \in (-\infty, -2) \cup (4, \infty)$

Part B – Full Solution

1. Given the following function :  $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 5x + 3}{x - 2}$

a) Does it have a vertical asymptote? **yes** / 1-K  
b) Does it have an oblique or horizontal asymptote? **Oblique** / 1-K  
c) Find the equation of the oblique/horizontal /vertical asymptote. / 2-K

$$\begin{array}{r|rrr} 2 & 1 & -5 & 3 \\ & & 2 & -6 \\ \hline & 1 & -3 & -3 \end{array}$$
$$f(x) = x - 3 + \left(\frac{-3}{x-2}\right)$$

$\therefore$  O.A is  $y = x - 3$

d) Analyze the end behavior of the function near the asymptotes. / 3-K

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{As } x \rightarrow \infty, [f(x) - (x-3)] \rightarrow 0 \text{ (below)} & \text{As } x \rightarrow 2^+, f(x) \rightarrow -\infty \\ \text{As } x \rightarrow -\infty, [f(x) - (x-3)] \rightarrow 0 \text{ (above)} & \text{As } x \rightarrow 2^-, f(x) \rightarrow \infty \end{array}$$

2. Solve the following:  $\frac{x+4}{x^2+5x-24} \geq \frac{2}{x-3}$ .

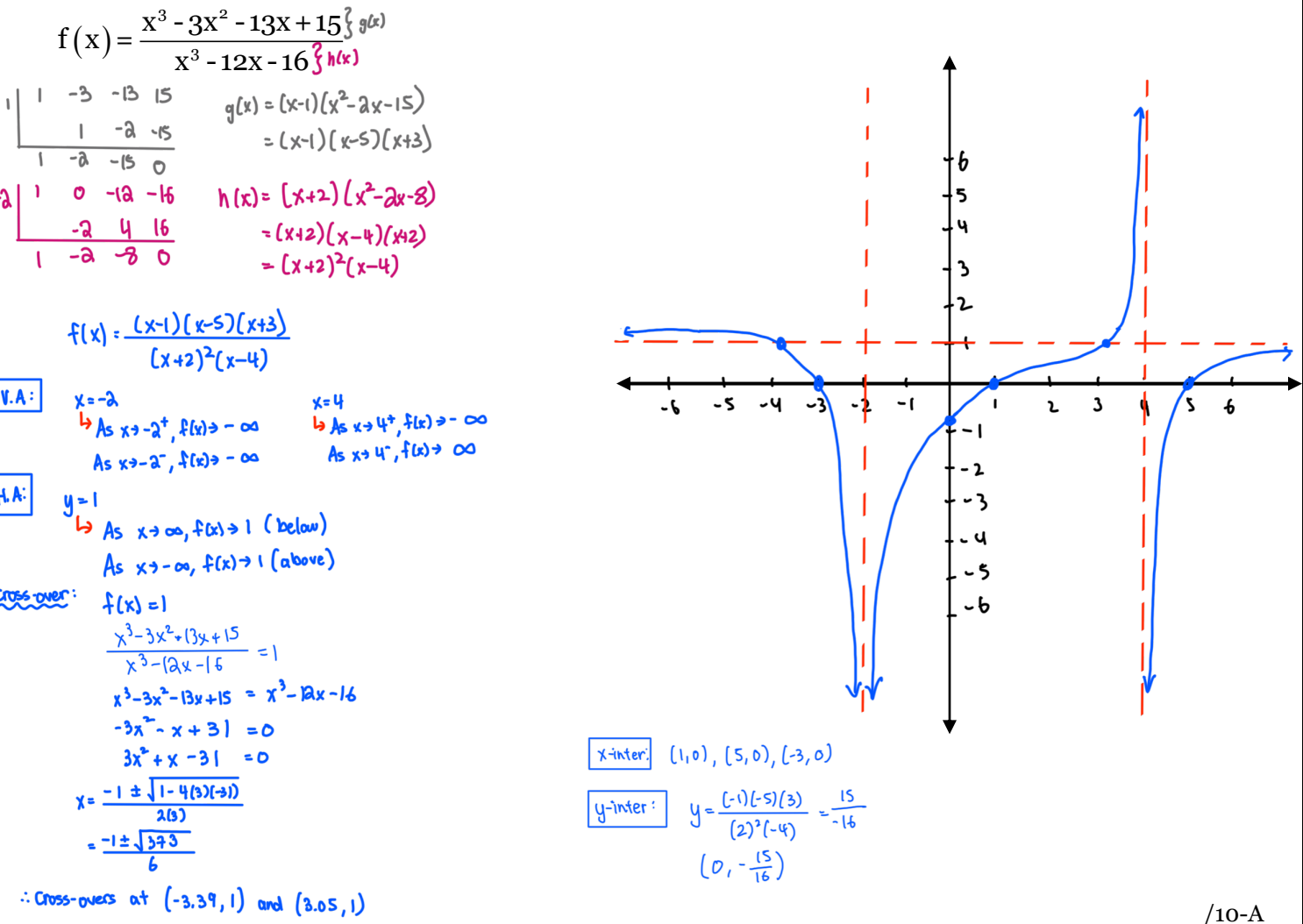
$$\frac{x+4}{(x+8)(x-3)} - \frac{2}{x-3} \geq 0$$
$$\frac{x+4 - 2(x+8)}{(x+8)(x-3)} \geq 0$$
$$\frac{x+4 - 2x - 16}{(x+8)(x-3)} \geq 0$$
$$\frac{-x-12}{(x+8)(x-3)} \geq 0$$
$$\frac{-(x+12)}{(x+8)(x-3)} \geq 0$$

Root: -12  
V.A:  $x = -8, x = 3$

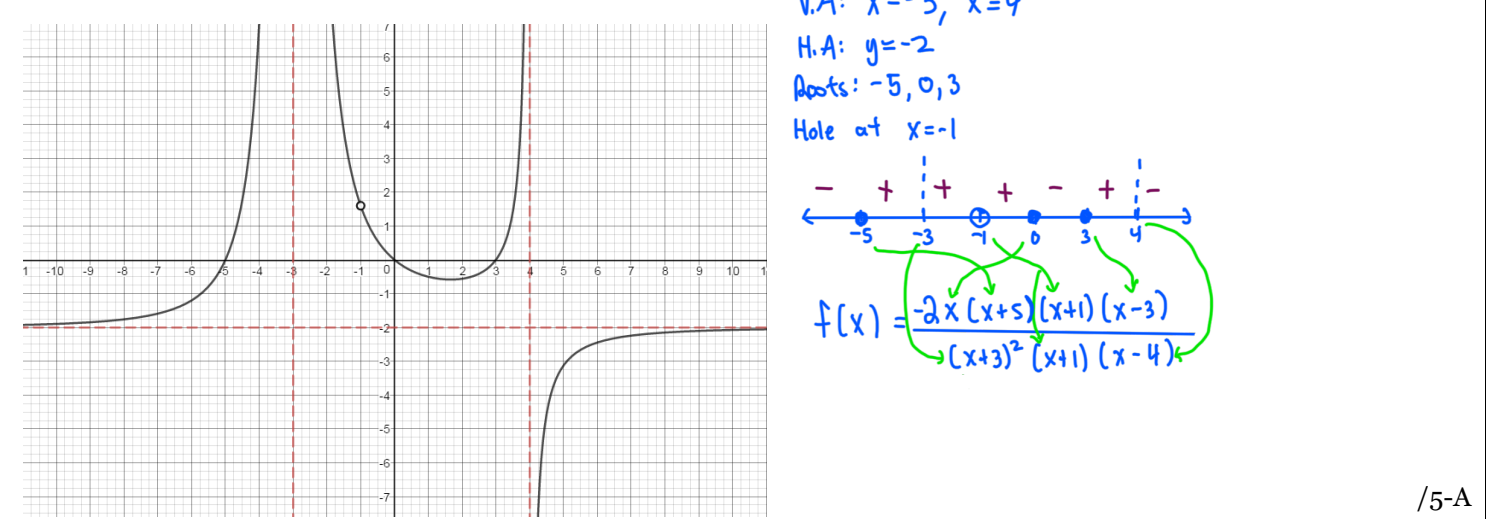
$\therefore x \in (-\infty, -12] \cup (-8, 3)$

/4-K

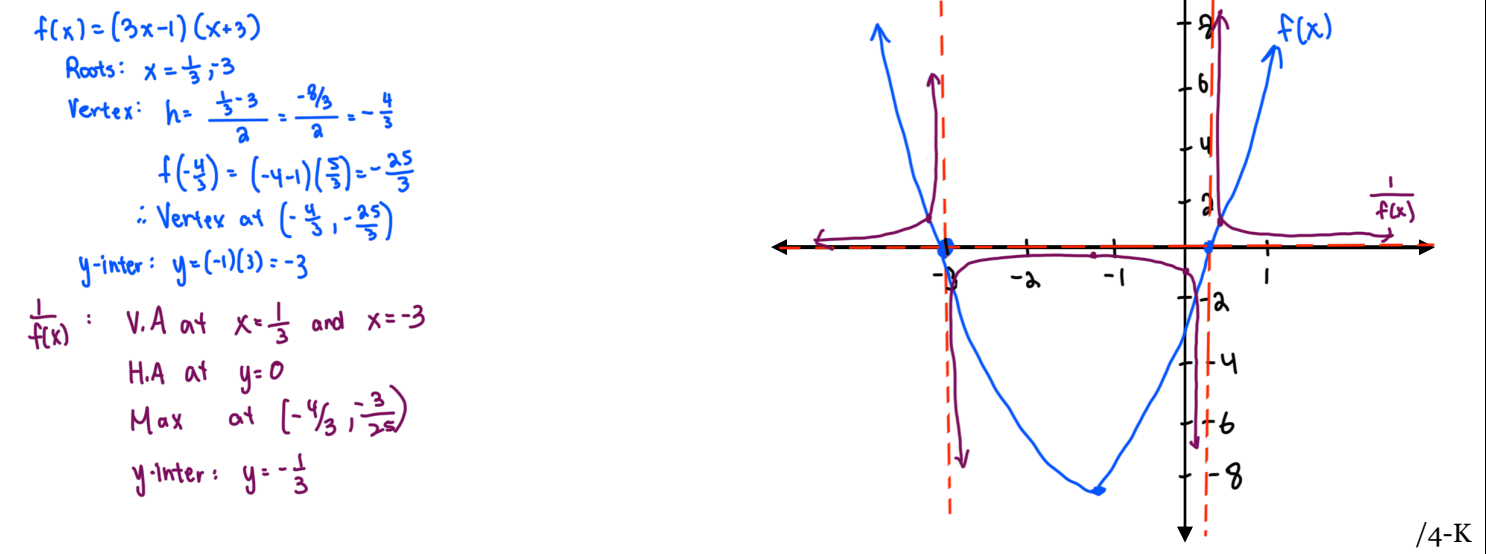
3. Sketch the following function using the domain, intercepts, vertical, horizontal asymptotes.



4. Write an equation for the function graphed below.



5. Sketch the graph of  $f(x) = 3x^2 + 8x - 3$  and its reciprocal on the same axis.



/4-K

6. If the graph of function  $f(x) = \frac{(1-ax)^3}{x^2}$  crosses its oblique asymptote at  $x = \frac{1}{3}$  determine the value of  $a$ . What is the equation of the oblique asymptote?

$$f(x) = \frac{(1-ax)(1-2ax+ax^2)}{x^2} = \frac{1-2ax+ax^2-ax+2a^2x^2-a^3x^3}{x^2} = \frac{-a^3x^3+3a^2x^2-3ax+1}{x^2} = \underbrace{-a^3x+3a^2}_{\text{O.A.}} + \frac{-3ax+1}{x^2}$$

$$R(x) = -3ax+1$$

Cross-over at  $x = \frac{1}{3} \Rightarrow R(\frac{1}{3}) = 0$

$$-3a(\frac{1}{3}) + 1 = 0$$

$$-a + 1 = 0$$

$$1 = a$$

$$\therefore \text{O.A.}: y = -(1)^3x + 3(1)^2$$

$$y = -x + 3$$

/5-T

7. The rational function  $y = \frac{ax^2}{bx^2 + (2b+1)x + b}$  has one vertical asymptote and passes through point (2,-3). Determine the values of  $a$  and  $b$ .

One V.A  $\Rightarrow bx^2 + (2b+1)x + b$  has only 1 root

$\Rightarrow \text{discriminant} = 0$

$$(2b+1)^2 - 4(b)(b) = 0$$

$$4b^2 + 4b + 1 - 4b^2 = 0$$

$$4b = -1$$

$$b = -\frac{1}{4}$$

Passes through (2,-3)  $\Rightarrow -3 = \frac{a(2)^2}{-\frac{1}{4}(2)^2 + (-\frac{1}{2}+1)b - \frac{1}{4}}$

$$-3 = \frac{4a}{-1 + 1 - \frac{1}{4}}$$

$$-3 = \frac{4a}{-\frac{1}{4}}$$

$$\frac{3}{4} = 4a$$

$$\frac{3}{16} = a$$

/5-T

8. Explain why it is important to know how to use long division (not just synthetic division) when determining the equation of an oblique asymptote for some rational functions.

For a rational function  $\frac{P(x)}{Q(x)}$ , an Oblique Asymptote exists if and only if the degree of  $P(x)$  is one degree larger than  $Q(x)$ . To find the O.A, we divide the polynomial  $P(x)$  by  $Q(x)$ . If  $Q(x)$  is degree 2 or higher, then synthetic division would be challenging or impossible.

Hence, knowing long division is important to know for such situations.

/4-C

Knowledge  $\frac{21}{21}$ Application  $\frac{15}{15}$ Communication  $\frac{4}{4}$ Thinking  $\frac{10}{10}$