

Maths Specialist

Test 1

Composite functions

A function is one that:

- passes the vertical line test
- is one-to-one or many-to one (each x value has only one corresponding y value)

A non-function is one that:

- fails the vertical line test
- is one-to-many (each x value has more than one corresponding y value)

Composite Functions:

Consider the functions $f(x)$ and $g(x)$

$x \rightarrow f(x) \rightarrow g(x)$

$\text{Domain}(f(x)) \rightarrow \text{Range}(f(x)) = \text{Domain}(g(x)) \rightarrow \text{Range}(g(x))$

Eg. If $\text{Domain}(f(x)) = \{2, 4, 6\}$ and $f(x) = 2x$, $g(x) = x^2 + 1$

$\text{Range}(f(x)) = \{4, 8, 12\} = \text{Domain}(g(x))$

$\text{Range}(g(x)) = \{17, 65, 145\}$

Also: $f(g(x)) = fg(x) = f \circ g(x) = 2[g(x)]$

$$= 2(x^2 + 1)$$

Inverse functions

An inverse function is the function reflected in the line $y = x$

$(x, y) \rightarrow (y, x)$, i.e. $y = 3x + 7 \rightarrow x = 3y + 7$

*Exchange x and y values $y = \frac{x-7}{3}$

$$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x-7}{3}$$

*Take care for many-to-one functions!

$y = x^2$ reflected in the line $y = x$ gives a reflection of $y = \pm \sqrt{x}$ (i.e. not a function), so a suitable restriction $x > 0$ will give an inverse for $y = x^2$

Absolute value: equations $|x| = 3 \implies x = \pm 3$

$$|x| < 3 \implies -3 < x < 3$$

$$|x+5| = 7 \implies x+5 = 7 \vee x+5 = -7, x = -12, 2$$

$$|x+3| = |x-1| \implies x+3 = x-1 \text{ (no solution)} \vee x+3 = -(x-1)$$

$$|2x+3| = |x+1| \implies 2x+3 = x+1 \vee 2x+3 = -(x+1), x = -2, -\frac{4}{3}$$

Solving inequalities:

$$|2x-3|+|x+1|\geq 8$$

$$(2x-3)+(x+1)\geq 8 \vee (2x-3)-(x+1)\geq 8 \vee -(2x-3)-(x+1)\geq 8$$

$$3x\geq 10 \vee x\geq 12 \vee -3x\geq 12$$

$$x\geq 3.33, x\geq 12, x\leq -4$$

$$\{x\leq -4\} \cup \{x\geq \frac{10}{3}\}$$

Graphs of rational functions

$$y=\frac{1}{f(x)}$$

$$\text{Consider the graph of } y=x^2-4x+3=(x-3)(x-1)=(x-2)^2+1$$

Vertical asymptotes where $y=0$ on original graph

Reciprocal function \rightarrow hyperbolic graph

Sketching polynomials:

Consider some or all of:

- intercepts with the x and y axes
- vertical/horizontal/oblique asymptotes
- behaviour as $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$ and as $y \rightarrow \pm\infty$
- stationary/turning points (use differentiation)

$y=|f(x)|$, where y is the graph of $f(x)$ but where $f(x)$ is negative, it is reflected around the x axis

$y=f(|x|)$, where in quadrants 1 and 4 the graph will be the same as that of $f(x)$, however quadrants 2 and 3 will be the parts of the graph of $f(x)$ in quadrants 1 and 4 reflected in the y axis.

$$\text{If } g(f)=(x-2)^2 \wedge f(x)=1-\sqrt{x}$$

Domain of $g(x)$: \mathbf{R} , range of $g(x)$: $y\geq 0$, domain of $f(x)$: $x\geq 0$, range of $f(x)$: $y\leq 1$

Why is $fg(x)$ defined for all real x ? $g(x)$ is defined for all real x and the output from $g(x)$ consists of numbers that are all within the domain of $f(x)$, thus $fg(x)$ is defined for all real x .