

Pre-test: Introduction to differential calculus

Show working for all problems. State answers exactly or to three significant figures.

1. Write down the derivative of the function  $f(x) = x^2 + 3x + 4$ .
2. A function is given as  $y = ax^2 + bx + 6$ .
  - (a) Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ .
  - (b) If the gradient of this function is 2 when  $x$  is 6, write an equation in terms of  $a$  and  $b$ .
  - (c) If the points  $(3, -15)$  lies on the graph of the function find a second equation in terms of  $a$  and  $b$ .
  - (d) Solve for  $x$  in terms of  $a$  and  $b$ :

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

Where have you seen this expression before?

3. Find  $f'(x)$  for the following function. Express final answer without negative exponents:

$$f(x) = \frac{x^3 - 4x - 8}{x}$$

4. Find the equation of the tangent to  $f(x) = \frac{4}{x^2}$  when  $x = 1$ .
5. Consider the function  $f(x) = x^3 - 4x^2 - 3x + 18$ .

- (a) Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ .
- (b) Find the values of  $f(x)$  for  $a$  and  $b$  in the table below:

$x$	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4	5
$f(x)$	-36	$a$	16	$b$	12	4	0	6	28

- (c) Using a scale of 1 cm for each unit on the  $x$ -axis and 1 cm for each 5 units on the  $y$ -axis, draw the graph of  $f(x)$  for  $-3 \leq x \leq 5$ . Label it clearly using IB conventions.
- (d) The gradient of the curve at any particular point varies. Within the interval  $-3 \leq x \leq 5$ , state all the intervals over which the gradient of the curve is
  - (i) Negative
  - (ii) Positive