

# WHAT TO KNOW FOR QUIZZES AND EXAMS

## DEFINITIONS

- (1) **RATIONAL NUMBER**: We define a **rational number** to be a number expressible as a quotient of two integers:  $\frac{m}{n}$  for  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $n \neq 0$ .
- (2) **CONTRAPOSITIVE**: The **contrapositive** of the statement “If  $P$  then  $Q$ ” is the statement “If not  $Q$  then not  $P$ ”.
- (3) **CONVERSE**: The **converse** of the statement “If  $P$  then  $Q$ ” is the statement “If  $Q$  then  $P$ ”.
- (4) **IRRATIONAL NUMBER**: A real number is **irrational** if it is not rational.
- (5) **MINIMUM / MAXIMUM**: Let  $S$  be a set of real numbers. A **minimum** element of  $S$  is a real number  $x$  such that
  - (a)  $x \in S$ , and
  - (b) for all  $y \in S$ ,  $x \leq y$ .
- (6) **UPPER BOUND / LOWER BOUND**: Let  $S$  be any subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . A real number  $b$  is called an **upper bound** of  $S$  provided that for every  $s \in S$ , we have  $s \leq b$ .
- (7) **BOUNDED ABOVE / BOUNDED BELOW**: A subset  $S$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  is called **bounded above** if there exists at least one upper bound for  $S$ . That is,  $S$  is bounded above provided there is a real number  $b$  such that for all  $s \in S$  we have  $s \leq b$ .
- (8) **SUPREMUM**: Suppose  $S$  is subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  that is bounded above. A **supremum** (also known as a **least upper bound**) of  $S$  is a number  $\ell$  such that
  - (a)  $\ell$  is an upper bound of  $S$  (i.e.,  $s \leq \ell$  for all  $s \in S$ ) and
  - (b) if  $b$  is any upper bound of  $S$ , then  $\ell \leq b$ .
- (9) **ABSOLUTE VALUE**: For a real number  $x$ , the **absolute value** of  $x$  is  $|x| := \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0. \end{cases}$
- (10) **(SEQUENCE) CONVERGES TO  $L$** : Let  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  be an arbitrary sequence and  $L$  a real number. We say  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  **converges** to  $L$  if for every real number  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there is a real number  $N$  such that  $|a_n - L| < \varepsilon$  for all natural numbers  $n$  such that  $n > N$ .
- (11) **(SEQUENCE IS) CONVERGENT**: We say that a sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is **convergent** if there is a number  $L$  such that  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  converges to  $L$ .
- (12) **(SEQUENCE IS) DIVERGENT**: We say that a sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is **divergent** if there is no number  $L$  such that  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  converges to  $L$ .
- (13) **INCREASING / DECREASING SEQUENCE**: We say that a sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is **increasing** if for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have  $a_n \leq a_{n+1}$ .
- (14) **STRICTLY INCREASING / DECREASING SEQUENCE**: We say that a sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is **strictly increasing** if for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $a_n < a_{n+1}$ .
- (15) **MONOTONE SEQUENCE**: We say that a sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is **monotone** if it is either decreasing or increasing.
- (16) **DIVERGES TO  $+\infty$** : A sequence **diverges to  $+\infty$**  if for every real number  $M$ , there is some  $N \in \mathbb{R}$  such that for every natural number  $n > N$  we have  $a_n > M$ .
- (17) **DIVERGES TO  $-\infty$** : A sequence **diverges to  $-\infty$**  if for every real number  $m$ , there is some  $N \in \mathbb{R}$  such that for every natural number  $n > N$  we have  $a_n < m$ .
- (18) **SUBSEQUENCE**: A **subsequence** of a given sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is any sequence of the form  $\{a_{n_k}\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$  where  $\{n_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$  is any strictly increasing sequence of natural numbers.

- (19) **LIMIT OF A FUNCTION:** Let  $f$  be a function and  $a, L$  be real numbers. We say that **the limit of  $f$  as  $x$  approaches  $a$  is  $L$**  if for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $0 < |x - a| < \delta$ , then  $x$  is in the domain of  $f$  and  $|f(x) - L| < \varepsilon$ .
- (20) **CONTINUOUS AT A POINT:** Let  $f$  be a function and  $a$  be a real number. We say  $f$  **is continuous at  $a$**  if for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is a  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $x$  is a real number such that  $|x - a| < \delta$  then  $f$  is defined at  $x$  and  $|f(x) - f(a)| < \varepsilon$ .
- (21) **CONTINUOUS ON AN OPEN INTERVAL:** Let  $I$  be an open interval, and  $f$  be a function defined on  $I$ . We say that  $f$  is **continuous on the open interval  $I$**  if  $f$  is continuous at  $x$  for all  $x \in I$ .
- (22) **CONTINUOUS ON A CLOSED INTERVAL:** Given a function  $f(x)$  and real numbers  $a < b$ , we say  $f$  is **continuous on the closed interval  $[a, b]$**  provided
- (a) for every  $r \in (a, b)$ ,  $f$  is continuous at  $r$  in the sense defined already,
  - (b) for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is a  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $a \leq x < a + \delta$ , then  $f(x)$  is defined and  $|f(x) - f(a)| < \varepsilon$ .
  - (c) for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is a  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $b - \delta < x \leq b$ , then  $|f(x) - f(b)| < \varepsilon$ .
- (23) **DIFFERENTIABLE:** Let  $f$  be a function and  $r$  be a real number. We say  $f$  is differentiable at  $r$  if  $f$  is defined at  $r$  and the limit  $\lim_{x \rightarrow r} \frac{f(x) - f(r)}{x - r}$  exists.
- (24) **DERIVATIVE (AT A POINT):** Let  $f$  be a function and  $r$  be a real number. We say that the derivative of  $f$  at  $r$  is the number  $\lim_{x \rightarrow r} \frac{f(x) - f(r)}{x - r}$  provided this limit exists.
- (25) **INCREASING/DECREASING FUNCTION:** Let  $f$  be a function, and  $S \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be a set of real numbers contained in domain of  $f$ . We say that  $f$  is **increasing** on  $S$  if for any  $a, b \in S$  with  $a < b$  we have  $f(a) \leq f(b)$ .