1. find $f'(x)$ given $f(x) = -5x^8 + 2x^6 + 3x^4 + 7x - 1$

$$f'(x) = -40x^7 + 12x^5 + 12x^3 + 7 - C$$

$$= -40x^7 + 12x^5 + 12x^3 + 7$$

application of the power rule

$$\frac{d}{dx} x^u = nx^{u-1}$$

By definition $\frac{d}{dx} C$ is 0