

$$1. \quad \vec{\nabla} f(x, y) = \langle 2x + 2y, 2x - 6y - 8 \rangle$$

$$z = f(2, 1) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(2, 1)(x-2) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(2, 1)(y-1)$$

$$\boxed{z = -3 + 6(x-2) - 10(y-1) \quad \text{or} \quad 6x - 10y - z = 5}$$

$$2. \quad \vec{u} = \frac{\langle -1-2, 5-1 \rangle}{\sqrt{3^2 + 4^2}} = \left\langle -\frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \right\rangle$$

$$D_{\vec{u}} f(2, 1) = \vec{\nabla} f(2, 1) \circ \vec{u} = \langle 6, -10 \rangle \circ \left\langle -\frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{5} \right\rangle$$

$$= -\frac{18}{5} - \frac{40}{5} = \boxed{-\frac{58}{5}} = -11.6$$

$$3. \quad \text{Solve } \vec{\nabla} f(x, y) = 0 \iff \begin{cases} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 2x + 2y = 0 \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 2x - 6y - 8 = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \underbrace{x=1, y=-1}_{\text{inside } R}$$

$f_{xx} = 2, f_{xy} = 2, f_{yy} = -6$, so at every point (x, y) ,

$$D(x, y) = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 2 & -6 \end{vmatrix} = -16 < 0, \text{ indicating the critical point is}$$

the location of a saddle point.