

Score: _____ out of 10.

Math 201 - Fake (but useful) Quiz

Name: key

1. Let $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$.

(a) Use the definition of the derivative to calculate $f'(4)$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 f'(4) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{4+h} - \sqrt{4}}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{4+h} - 2}{h} \cdot \left(\frac{\sqrt{4+h} + 2}{\sqrt{4+h} + 2} \right) \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(\sqrt{4+h})^2 - 2\sqrt{4+h} + 2\sqrt{4+h} - 4}{h(\sqrt{4+h} + 2)} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{4+h-4}{h(\sqrt{4+h} + 2)} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h}{h(\sqrt{4+h} + 2)} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{4+h} + 2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4} + 2} = \frac{1}{2+2} = \boxed{\frac{1}{4}}
 \end{aligned}$$

(b) Find an equation for the tangent line to the curve $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$ at $x = 4$.

Equation of tangent line (by point-slope formula):

$$y - f(a) = f'(a)(x - a)$$

so here since $a = 4$, $f(4) = \sqrt{4} = 2$, $f'(4) = 1/2$ (from part (a)):

$$\boxed{y - 2 = \frac{1}{4}(x - 4)}$$

or

$$y = \frac{1}{4}x - \frac{4}{4} + 2 = \frac{1}{4}x - 1 + 2 = \frac{1}{4}x + 1$$

$$\boxed{y = \frac{1}{4}x + 1}$$

2. Let $f(x) = \frac{2}{x+1}$. Use the definition of the derivative to find $f'(x)$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{2}{(x+h)+1} - \frac{2}{x+1}}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{2}{x+h+1} \left(\frac{x+1}{x+1} \right) - \frac{2}{x+1} \left(\frac{x+h+1}{x+h+1} \right)}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2x+2 - 2(x+h+1)}{h(x+h+1)(x+1)} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cancel{2x+2} - \cancel{2x} - 2h - \cancel{2}}{h(x+h+1)(x+1)} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-2h}{h(x+h+1)(x+1)} \\
 &= \frac{-2}{(x+0+1)(x+1)} = \boxed{\frac{-2}{(x+1)^2}}
 \end{aligned}$$