

July 12, 1999

Your name _____

On all the following questions, **show your work.**

1. (10 points) Find the exact value of $|\sqrt{2} - 2| - |2 - 3\sqrt{2}|$. Leave your answer in radical form. No credit for a decimal answer.

$$\text{Solution: } |\sqrt{2} - 2| - |2 - 3\sqrt{2}| = 2 - \sqrt{2} - (3\sqrt{2} - 2) = 4 - 4\sqrt{2}.$$

2. (10 points) Find all values of x such that $-3 \leq 2x - 3 \leq 6$.

Solution: Add 3 to all three parts to get $-3 + 3 \leq 2x - 3 + 3 \leq 6 + 3$ which is equivalent to $0 \leq 2x \leq 9$ which is equivalent to $0 \leq x \leq 9/2$.

3. (10 points) Find all roots of the equation

$$(x - 1)(x + 1) + (x - 2)(x + 1) = 0.$$

Solution: Factor $(x - 1)(x + 1) + (x - 2)(x + 1)$ to get $(x + 1)((x - 1) + (x - 2)) = (x + 1)(2x - 3) = 0$, which has two roots, $x = -1$ and $x = 3/2$.

4. (10 points) Rationalize the numerator of the expression $\frac{\sqrt{4+h}-2}{h}$, and express your answer in simplified form.

$$\text{Solution: } \frac{\sqrt{4+h}-2}{h} = \frac{\sqrt{4+h}-2}{h} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{4+h}+2}{\sqrt{4+h}+2} = \frac{4+h-4}{h(\sqrt{4+h}+2)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4+h}+2}.$$

5. (15 points) A. What is the distance between $(-3, 5)$ and $(6, 8)$?

$$\text{Solution: } D = \sqrt{(-3 - 6)^2 + (8 - 5)^2} = \sqrt{81 + 9} = 3\sqrt{10}$$

B. The points $A = (0, 0)$, $B = (8, 0)$, and $C = (x, y)$ are the vertices of an equilateral triangle (i.e., all the sides have the same length). Find x and y . Write your answers in decimal form.

Solution: Because of the symmetry, the x coordinate must be 4. The y coordinate satisfies $\sqrt{4 - 0)^2 + (y - 0)^2} = 8$, which yields $y = \sqrt{48} = 4\sqrt{3}$.

6. (10 points) What is the slope of the line joining the points $(-2, f(-2))$ and $(4, f(4))$, where f is the function defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 - |x| & \text{if } x \leq 2 \\ 3x - 2 & \text{if } x > 2 \end{cases}$$

Solution: The slope is $\frac{f(4)-f(-2)}{4-(-2)} = \frac{10-2}{6} = 4/3$.

7. (10 points) The supply function for an item is given by $p = s(x) = 0.1x^2 - 12x + 700$ and the demand function is given by $p = d(x) = 0.1x^2 + 8x - 380$, where p is measured in dollars and x is the number of items. Find the equilibrium point. That is, find the number x of items produced needed to equalize the supply and demand.

Solution: Set the two quadratics equal to one another, and notice that the second degree terms cancel to yield the linear equation $-12x + 700 = +8x - 380$ or equivalently, $20x = 1080$, so $x = 54$.

8. (40 points) Evaluate each of the limits, or state that it does not exist.

(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2 + 9x - 11}{2x^2 - 4x + 23}$.

Solution: The limit is just the ratio of the two coefficients of x^2 , or $1/2$.

(b) $\lim_{z \rightarrow 2} \frac{z^3 - 8}{z - 2}$.

Solution: The numerator factors into $(z - 2)(z^2 + 2z + 4)$, so the limit is just the value of $(z^2 + 2z + 4)$ at $z = 2$, which is 12.

(c) $\lim_{h \rightarrow 3} \frac{(2 - h)^2 + (2 + h)^2}{h^2 - 3h + 6}$.

Solution: Just evaluate the numerator and denominator at $h = 3$ to get $\frac{1^2 + 5^2}{9 - 9 + 6} = 26/6 = 13/3$.

(d) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x - 3}{x^2 - 9}$.

Solution: The denominator factors into $(x - 3)(x + 3)$, so the limit is just the value of $\frac{1}{x + 3}$ at $x = 3$, that is, $1/6$.

(e) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} f(x)$ where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} (x - 4)^2 & \text{if } x < 2 \\ 7 & \text{if } x = 2 \\ 5x - 6 & \text{if } x > 2 \end{cases}$$

Solution: Cover the left side of the graph to find the right limit, which is the value you get from the $5x - 6$ piece, namely 4. Then cover the right half to get the left limit, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} (x - 4)^2$, which is also 4. Hence the limit is 4.