

Unit #5: Limits

Topic: Limits at Infinity

Objective: SWBAT find limits at infinity by using horizontal asymptotes.

Warm Up #6:

$$\text{If } f(x) = \begin{cases} x + 5 & \text{for } x < 0 \\ 2 & \text{for } 0 \leq x < 3 \\ x^2 - 7 & \text{for } x \geq 3 \end{cases}, \text{ find}$$

a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) =$

b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} f(x) =$

Limits at Infinity

A limit at infinity is the value a function is approaching as x gets infinitely large or infinitely small.



In order to find the limits of a function as x approaches positive or negative infinity we need to look at the horizontal asymptotes.

If _____ is a horizontal asymptote of $f(x)$ then $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} f(x) = _____$.

What happens to an expression as x approaches infinity?

Example #1: Find

a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x^2 + 3$

b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(2 + \frac{1}{x}\right)$

c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{x^3 - 10}{8}$

Evaluate each of the following using your calculator:

Given the function $f(x) = \frac{x^3+x^2+1}{2x^3}$, find

1) $f(10) =$	2) $f(100) =$	3) $f(1000) =$
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What do you notice about the values of $f(x)$ as x increases?

How can you see this in the function itself?

Example #2: Find

a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{(x+1)^2}{3x^2}$	b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \left(7 - \frac{5x}{x^2+1}\right)$	c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^3+4x-8}{x^2-x-6}$
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Problem Set #6: Find each of the following limits.

1) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4}{2x+3}$	2) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \left(\frac{2}{x} + 1\right) \left(\frac{5x^2-1}{x^2}\right)$
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3) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2e^x + 5}{6}$

4) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{2x^2 + 1}}{4x + 2}$

5) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{2x}{x+1} \right) \left(\frac{3^x - 1}{2} \right)$

6) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{3x^4 + 1}{2}$

7) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left[3 + \frac{2x^2}{(x+5)^2} \right]$

8) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x^2 - 6}{(x-1)^2}$

9) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}}$

10) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2+x}{2-x}$

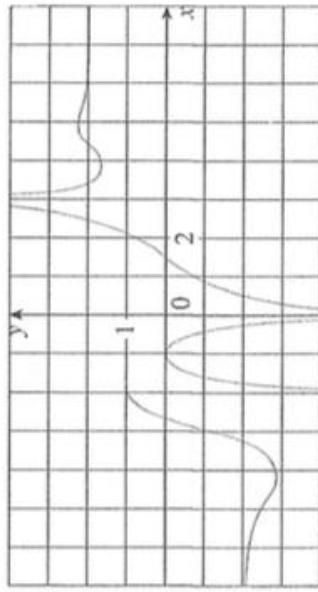
11) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{7}{e^x + 2e}$

12) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{2}{3} - \frac{4}{(x-12)^3} \right)$

Homework

4. For the function g whose graph is given, state the following.

- (a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g(x)$
- (b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} g(x)$
- (c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} g(x)$
- (d) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} g(x)$
- (e) $\lim_{x \rightarrow -2^+} g(x)$
- (f) The equations of the asymptotes



13–14 Evaluate the limit and justify each step by indicating the appropriate properties of limits.

13. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x^2 - x + 4}{2x^2 + 5x - 8}$

14. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\frac{12x^3 - 5x + 2}{1 + 4x^2 + 3x^3}}$

15–36 Find the limit.

15. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2x + 3}$

17. $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{1 - x - x^2}{2x^2 - 7}$

19. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^3 + 5x}{2x^3 - x^2 + 4}$

21. $\lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \frac{4u^4 + 5}{(u^2 - 2)(2u^2 - 1)}$

23. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{9x^6 - x}}{x^3 + 1}$

25. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (\sqrt{9x^2 + x} - 3x)$

27. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (\sqrt{x^2 + ax} - \sqrt{x^2 + bx})$

28. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \cos x$

29. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x + x^3 + x^5}{1 - x^2 + x^4}$

31. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (x^4 + x^5)$

33. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 - e^x}{1 + 2e^x}$
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = 3$

35. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (e^{-2x} \cos x)$
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = -\infty, \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = 2, f(0) = 0, f$ is even

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15–36 Find the limit.

16. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3x + 5}{x - 4}$

18. $\lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2 - 3y^2}{5y^2 + 4y}$

20. $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t^2 + 2}{t^3 + t^2 - 1}$

22. $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x + 2}{\sqrt{9x^2 + 1}}$

24. $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{\sqrt{9x^6 - x}}{x^3 + 1}$

26. $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} (x + \sqrt{x^2 + 2x})$