Worksheet 1.5—Continuity on Intervals & IVT

Show all work. No Calculator (unless stated otherwise)

Short Answer

1. Let
$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2, & x \le 1 \\ x^2 - 2x - 1, & 1 < x < 3 \\ 4, & x \ge 3 \end{cases}$$

(a) Sketch a graph of f(x).

(b) Based on the function above, list the largest intervals on $x \in (-\infty, \infty)$ for which f(x) is continuous.

(c) Find a number b such that f(x) is continuous in $(-\infty, b]$ but not in $(-\infty, b+1)$.

(d) Find all numbers a and b such that f(x) is continuous in (a,b) but not in (a,b].

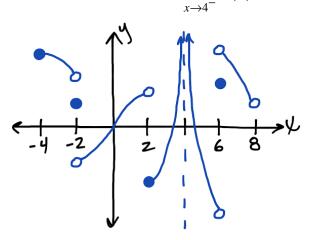
(e) Find the least number *a* such that f(x) is continuous in $[a, \infty)$.

2. A toy car travels on a straight path. During the time interval $0 \le t \le 60$ seconds, the toy car's velocity *v*, measured in feet per second, is a continuous function. Selected values are given below.

t (sec)	0	15	25	30	35	50	60
v(t) (ft/sec)	-10	-15	-10	-7	-5	0	13

For 0 < t < 60, must there be a time t when v(t) = -2? Justify.

3. The graph of f is given below, and has the property of $\lim_{x \to \infty} f(x) = \infty$



(a) Can the IVT be used to prove that f(x) = 31415926 somewhere on the interval $x \in [2, 4]$? Why or why not? Will, in fact, f(x) = 31415926 on this interval?

(b) State the largest intervals for which the given graph of f is continuous.

4. For the function $f(x) = \begin{cases} (x-2)^2, & x=4 \\ 5, & 4 < x \le 10 \end{cases}$. Find f(4) and f(10). Does the IVT guarantee a y-

value u on $4 \le x \le 10$ such that f(4) < u < f(10)? Why or why not. Sketch the graph of f(x) for added visual proof.

5. If f and g are continuous functions with f(3) = 5 and $\lim_{x \to 3} \left[2f(x) - g(x) \right] = 4$, find g(3).

6. Determine the values of x for which the function
$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{x}, x < 1 \\ x^2, 1 \le x < 2 \\ \sqrt{8x}, 2 < x \le 8 \\ 8.0001, x > 8 \end{cases}$$
 is continuous.

7. Use the IVT to show that there is a solution to the given functions on the given intervals. Be sure to test your hypothesis, show numeric evidence, and write a concluding statement. Use your calculator to find the actual solution value correct to three decimal places.

(a) $\cos x = x$, (0,1) (b) $\ln x = e^{-x}$, (1,2)

8. Mr. Wenzel is mountain climbing with Mr. Korpi. They leave the base of Mount BBB at 7:00 A.M. and take a single trail to the top of the mountain, arriving at the summit at 7:00 P.M. where they spend a sleepless night dodging bears and lightning bolts in their heads. The next morning, they wearily leave the summit at 7:00 A.M. and travel down the same path they came up the day before, arriving at the base of the mountain at 7:00 P.M. Will there be a point along the trail where Mr. Wenzel and Mr. Korpi will be standing at exactly the same time of day on consecutive days? Why or why not?



x	f(x)	g(x)	
1	3	4	
3	9	-10	
5	7	5	
7	11	25	

9. The functions f and g are continuous for all real numbers. The table below gives values of the functions at selected values of x. The function h is given by h(x) = g(f(x)) + 2.

Explain why there must be a value w for 1 < w < 5 such that h(w) = 0

10. The functions f and g are continuous for all real numbers. The function h is given by h(x) = f(g(x)) - x. The table below gives values of the functions at selected values of x. Explain why there must be a value of u for 1 < u < 4 such that h(u) = -1.

x	1	2	3	4
f(x)	0	8	-3	6
g(x)	3	4	1	2

Multiple Choice

_____ 11. Let g(x) be a continuous function. Selected values of g are given in the table below.

x	3	5	6	9	10
g(x)	2	5	-1	4	0

What is the fewest number of times the graph of g(x) will intersect y = 1 on the closed interval [3,10]?

 $(A) None \qquad (B) One \qquad (C) Two \qquad (D) Three \qquad (E) Four$

_____ 12. Let h(x) be a continuous function. Selected values of h are given in the table below.

x	2	3	4	5	7
h(x)	2	5	k	4	3

For which value of k will the equation $h(x) = \frac{2}{3}$ have **at least two solutions** on the closed interval [2,7]?

(A) 1 (B)
$$\frac{3}{4}$$
 (C) $\frac{7}{9}$ (D) $\frac{2}{3}$ (E) $\frac{11}{18}$

 $----- 13. \text{ If } f(x) = \begin{cases} x+1, & x \le 1 \\ 3+ax^2, & x > 1 \end{cases}, \text{ then } f(x) \text{ is continuous for all } x \text{ if } a = \\ (A) 1 \qquad (B) -1 \qquad (C) \frac{1}{2} \qquad (D) 0 \qquad (E) -2 \end{cases}$

$$\underbrace{ 14. \text{ If } f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sqrt{2x+5} - \sqrt{x+7}}{x-2}, & x \neq 2\\ k, & x = 2 \end{cases}, \text{ and if } f \text{ is continuous at } x = 2, \text{ then } k = \\ (A) 0 \qquad (B) \frac{1}{6} \qquad (C) \frac{1}{3} \qquad (D) 1 \qquad (E) \frac{7}{5} \end{cases}$$

15. Let f be the function defined by the following.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \sin x, \ x < 0 \\ x^2, \ 0 \le x < 1 \\ 2 - x, \ 1 \le x < 2 \\ x - 3, \ x \ge 2 \end{cases}$$

For what values of *x* is *f* NOT continuous?

- 16. Let *f* be a continuous function on the closed interval [-3,6]. If f(-3) = -1 and f(6) = 3, then the Intermediate Value Theorem guarantees that
 - (A) f(0) = 0
 - (B) The slope of the graph of f is $\frac{4}{9}$ somewhere between -3 and 6
 - (C) $-1 \le f(x) \le 3$ for all x between -3 and 6
 - (D) f(c) = 1 for at least one *c* between -3 and 6
 - (E) f(c) = 0 for at least one c between -1 and 3
- 17. Let *f* be the function given by $f(x) = \frac{(x-1)(x^2-4)}{x^2-a}$. For what **positive** values of *a* is *f* continuous for all real numbers *x*?

(A) None (B) 1 only (C) 2 only (D) 4 only (E) 1 and 4 only

18. If f is continuous on [-4,4] such that f(-4) = 11 and f(4) = -11, then which must be true? (A) f(0) = 0 (B) $\lim_{x \to 2} f(x) = 8$ (C) There is at least one $c \in [-4,4]$ such that f(c) = 8(D) $\lim_{x \to 3} f(x) = \lim_{x \to -3} f(x)$ (E) It is possible that f is not defined at x = 0