



Math 150 - Week-In-Review 3

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Section 3.1 – Simplifying Rational Expressions

1. Simplify each expression and determine for what values of x , if any, the simplified expression is not equivalent to the original expression.

(a) $\frac{x^2 + 4x - 12}{3x - 6}$

(b) $\frac{\frac{2}{x} - 3}{1 - \frac{1}{x-1}}$

(c) $\frac{x^2 + 4x - 5}{3x + 18} \cdot \frac{2x - 1}{x + 5}$



$$(d) \frac{2x^2 + x - 6}{x^2 - 1} \div \frac{x^2 - 4}{x^2 + 2x + 1}$$

$$(e) \frac{6}{x^2 + 4x + 4} + \frac{2}{x^2 - 4}$$

$$(f) \frac{x}{x^2 + 5x + 6} - \frac{3}{x^2 + 7x + 12}$$



(g) $x(1-2x)^{-3} + (1-2x)^{-2}$

(h) $\frac{(4-x^2)^{1/2} + x^2(4-x^2)^{-1/2}}{4-x^2}$



2. Find and simplify the difference quotient $\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$, $h \neq 0$, for each function f given.

(a) $f(x) = x^2 - 12x + 5$

(b) $f(x) = \sqrt{x+3}$

(c) $f(x) = \frac{1}{2x-1}$



3. The height, s , in feet, of a football kicked off at the start of an A&M game, after t seconds, is given by the function $s(t) = -16t^2 + 80t$. Estimate the instantaneous velocity of the football one second after the kickoff by first finding the average velocity of the football over the interval $[1, t]$.