

1-25-'12

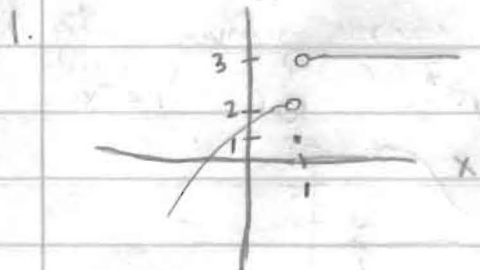
Group Work 1

Hint:

• look at x values close to (but not

equal to) a

• what are the y -values correspond to the these x -values getting closer to?



a) $f(1) = 3$

b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = 3$ (right-hand limit) from the right

c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = 2$ (left-hand limit) from the left

d) no; the righthand limit \neq left hand limit $\neq f(1)$

* these need to be equal for the limit to exist

2. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} = 1$ (use calculator)

Group Work 2

1. $f(x) = \frac{(x-3)}{(x^2-9)}$

Q. what is the asymptote of $f(x) = \frac{(x-3)}{(x^2-9)}$

$f(x) = \frac{(x-3)}{(x-3)(x+3)}$ ← factor out $(x-3)$

$f(x) = \frac{1}{(x+3)}$ $x = -3$ is an asymptote

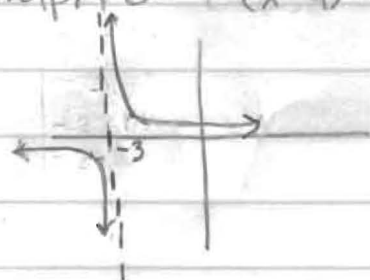
$(x+3) = 0$
 $x = -3$

2. Graph of $\frac{x-3}{(x^2-9)}$

Q. Prove that $x = -3$ is an asymptote

$\lim_{x \rightarrow -3^+} = \infty$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow -3^-} = -\infty$



* also use a calculator to look at values of x as it approaches -3 from the left and right side.