

Directions: Show all steps (within reason). Simplify your answer.

1. This problem concerns the function  $f(x) = \frac{3}{x-2}$ . Do either (a) or (b) below. (Your choice.)(a) Use a limit definition of the derivative to find  $f'(x)$ . Then use your answer to find  $f'(4)$ .(b) Use a limit definition of the derivative at a point to find  $f'(4)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(a) } f'(x) &= \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{f(z) - f(x)}{z - x} = \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{\frac{3}{z-2} - \frac{3}{x-2}}{z-x} \\
 &= \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{\frac{3}{z-2} - \frac{3}{x-2}}{z-x} \cdot \frac{(z-2)(x-2)}{(z-2)(x-2)} \\
 &= \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{3(x-2) - 3(z-2)}{(z-x)(z-2)(x-2)} = \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{3x-6-3z+6}{(z-x)(z-2)(x-2)} \\
 &= \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{3x-3z}{(z-x)(z-2)(x-2)} = \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{-3(z-x)}{(z-x)(z-2)(x-2)} \\
 &= \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{-3}{(z-2)(x-2)} = \frac{-3}{(x-2)(x-2)} = \frac{-3}{(x-2)^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $f'(x) = \frac{-3}{(x-2)^2}$  so  $f'(4) = \frac{-3}{(4-2)^2} = \frac{-3}{2^2} = \frac{-3}{4}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(b) } f'(4) &= \lim_{z \rightarrow 4} \frac{f(z) - f(4)}{z-4} = \lim_{z \rightarrow 4} \frac{\frac{3}{z-2} - \frac{3}{4-2}}{z-4} \\
 &= \lim_{z \rightarrow 4} \frac{\frac{3}{z-2} - \frac{3}{2}}{z-4} = \lim_{z \rightarrow 4} \frac{\frac{3}{z-2} - \frac{3}{2}}{z-4} \cdot \frac{2(z-2)}{2(z-2)} \\
 &= \lim_{z \rightarrow 4} \frac{6 - 3(z-2)}{(z-4)2(z-2)} = \lim_{z \rightarrow 4} \frac{6 - 3z + 6}{2(z-4)(z-2)} \\
 &= \lim_{z \rightarrow 4} \frac{12 - 3z}{2(z-4)(z-2)} = \lim_{z \rightarrow 4} \frac{-3(z-4)}{2(z-4)(z-2)} = \lim_{z \rightarrow 4} \frac{-3}{2(z-2)} = \frac{-3}{4}
 \end{aligned}$$

Directions: Show all steps (within reason). Simplify your answer.

1. This problem concerns the function  $f(x) = \sqrt{x+9}$ . Do either (a) or (b) below. (Your choice.)(a) Use a limit definition of the derivative to find  $f'(x)$ . Then use your answer to find  $f'(16)$ .(b) Use a limit definition of the derivative at a point to find  $f'(16)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(a) } f'(x) &= \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{f(z) - f(x)}{z - x} = \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{\sqrt{z+9} - \sqrt{x+9}}{z - x} \\
 &= \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{\sqrt{z+9} - \sqrt{x+9}}{z - x} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{z+9} + \sqrt{x+9}}{\sqrt{z+9} + \sqrt{x+9}} \\
 &= \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{(z+9) - (x+9)}{(z-x)(\sqrt{z+9} + \sqrt{x+9})} = \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{z+9 - x - 9}{(z-x)(\sqrt{z+9} + \sqrt{x+9})} \\
 &= \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{\cancel{z-x}}{(z-x)(\sqrt{z+9} + \sqrt{x+9})} = \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{1}{\sqrt{z+9} + \sqrt{x+9}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+9} + \sqrt{x+9}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x+9}}
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $f'(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x+9}}$  so  $f'(16) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{16+9}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{25}} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot 5} = \frac{1}{10}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(b) } f'(16) &= \lim_{z \rightarrow 16} \frac{f(z) - f(16)}{z - 16} = \lim_{z \rightarrow 16} \frac{\sqrt{z+9} - \sqrt{16+9}}{z - 16} \\
 &= \lim_{z \rightarrow 16} \frac{\sqrt{z+9} - \sqrt{25}}{z - 16} = \lim_{z \rightarrow 16} \frac{\sqrt{z+9} - 5}{z - 16} \\
 &= \lim_{z \rightarrow 16} \frac{\sqrt{z+9} - 5}{z - 16} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{z+9} + 5}{\sqrt{z+9} + 5} \\
 &= \lim_{z \rightarrow 16} \frac{z+9 - 25}{(z-16)(\sqrt{z+9} + 5)} = \lim_{z \rightarrow 16} \frac{\cancel{z-16}}{(z-16)(\sqrt{z+9} + 5)} \\
 &= \lim_{z \rightarrow 16} \frac{1}{\sqrt{z+9} + 5} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{16+9} + 5} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{25} + 5} = \frac{1}{5+5} = \frac{1}{10}
 \end{aligned}$$