Math 251

Theorems, Derivatives

Name:\_

Mean Value Theorem If $f(x)$ is continuous on $[a, b]$ and differentiable on $(a, b)$ , then there is at least one value, $x = c$ , where $a < c < b$ such that
$f'(c) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}$

(1) Sketch a graph representing the hypothesis and conclusion of this theorem.

(2) In essence the Mean Value Theorem (MVT) asserts that a vehicle that averages v mph on a trip will at some time on the trip have been traveling at v mph. Give another real-world example of the MVT.

(3) Sketch a graph or give an example of a function that is continuous on [a, b] but does not satisfy the conclusion of the MVT (Consider the hypotheses of the theorem). Why does it fail?

(4) State the *converse* of the Mean Value Theorem and draw or give a counterexample showing it is not true.

Consequences of the Mean Value Theorem:

Increasing Function Theorem
Suppose f(x) is continuous on [a, b] and differentiable on (a, b), then
If f'(x) > 0 on a < x < b , then f(x) is increasing on a ≤ x ≤ b.</li>
If f'(x) ≥ 0 on a < x < b , then f(x) is nondecreasing on a ≤ x ≤ b.</li>

(5) An example of the increasing function theorem would be to say that a car experiencing positive acceleration will be speeding up. Give another real-world example of the Increasing Function Theorem.

(6) State the converse of the IFT (assume f(x) is continuous on [a, b] and differentiable on (a, b)) and provide a counterexample or drawing showing it is not true.

Constant Function Theorem Suppose f(x) is continuous on [a, b] and differentiable on (a, b), then If f'(x) = 0 on a < x < b, then f(x) is constant on  $a \le x \le b$ .

(7) State the converse of the CFT (assume f(x) is continuous on [a, b] and differentiable on (a, b)). Prove that the converse is true.

(8) Give an example of a discontinuous function that is not constant (show why we need the requirement that f(x) is continuous).

## The Racetrack Principle

Suppose f(x) and g(x) are continuous on [a, b] and differentiable on (a, b). Also suppose that  $f'(x) \leq g'(x)$  on (a, b). Then

- If f(a) = g(a), then  $f(x) \le g(x)$  for  $a \le x \le b$ .
- If f(b) = g(b), then  $f(x) \ge g(x)$  for  $a \le x \le b$ .

(9) Sketch graphs illustrating the hypothesis and conclusion(s) of the Racetrack Principle.

(10) Use an example to illustrate the racetrack principle (both parts).

11) Is it true that for continuous (on [a, b]), differentiable (on (a, b)) functions f and g, if  $f(x) \le g(x)$  and f(a) = g(a), then  $f'(x) \le g'(x)$  on (a, b)? Please support your answer.

12) Show the tangent line approximation for  $y = \ln x$  at x = 1 is y = x - 1 and use the Racetrack Principle to show that  $x - 1 \ge \ln x$  for all x in the domain of  $y = \ln x$ .

Equal Derivatives Suppose f(x) is differentiable for all x in the domain of f. If f(x) = g(x) + C,  $C \in \mathbb{R}$ , Then f'(x) = g'(x)

You should see that this is a consequence of the addition property of derivatives.

(13) State the *converse* of the theorem above. Do you think it is true? Please provide some reflections.