

**Stuff to remember:**

**Critical values/numbers** are where  $f'(x)$  is either equal to zero OR  $f'(x)$  is undefined [but  $f(x)$  is defined]

Possible points of inflection are where  $f''(x)$  is either equal to zero OR  $f''(x)$  is undefined [but  $f(x)$  is defined]

If a function is differentiable at a point, then the function is continuous at that point.

**How to justify: PLEASE LOOK AT THE INTERVAL NOTATION**

[Assume that the function is continuous and differentiable]

If  $f'(x) > 0$  for every  $x$  in  $(a, b)$ , then  $f(x)$  is increasing on  $[a, b]$

If  $f'(x) < 0$  for every  $x$  in  $(a, b)$ , then  $f(x)$  is decreasing on  $[a, b]$

If  $f''(x) > 0$  for every  $x$  in  $(a, b)$ , then  $f(x)$  is concave up on  $(a, b)$  AND  $f'(x)$  is increasing on  $[a, b]$

If  $f''(x) < 0$  for every  $x$  in  $(a, b)$ , then  $f(x)$  is concave down on  $(a, b)$  AND  $f'(x)$  is decreasing on  $[a, b]$

If  $f'(x)$  is increasing on  $(a, b)$ , then  $f(x)$  is concave up on  $(a, b)$  AND  $f''(x) > 0$  on  $(a, b)$

If  $f'(x)$  is decreasing on  $(a, b)$ , then  $f(x)$  is concave down on  $(a, b)$  AND  $f''(x) < 0$  on  $(a, b)$

Let  $x = a$  be a critical value for  $f(x)$  [in other words,  $f'(a) = 0$  OR  $f'(a)$  is undefined but  $f(a)$  is defined]

**To show that  $(a, f(a))$  is a relative/local minimum:**

"At  $x = a$ ,  $f'(x)$  changes from negative to positive values. Hence,  $f$  has a relative minimum at  $x = a$ ."

**To show that  $(a, f(a))$  is a relative/local maximum:**

"At  $x = a$ ,  $f'(x)$  changes from positive to negative values. Hence,  $f$  has a relative maximum at  $x = a$ ."

Let  $f''(b) = 0$  or  $f''(b)$  be undefined but  $f(b)$  is defined

To show that  $(b, f(b))$  is a point of inflection you must justify with one of the following statements:

"At  $x = b$ ,  $f''(b)$  changes from positive to negative values. Hence,  $f$  has a point of inflection at  $x = b$ ."

OR

"At  $x = b$ ,  $f''(b)$  changes from negative to positive values. Hence,  $f$  has a point of inflection at  $x = b$ ."

If given the graph of the first derivative, then a point of inflection will occur at  $x = a$  if at  $x=a$  the graph of  $f'(x)$  changes from either increasing to decreasing OR decreasing to increasing.

NOTE: When you justify, you must be SPECIFIC. Do NOT state a rule but rather, explain what is occurring at some specific value of  $x = a$ .

To justify an absolute maximum or absolute minimum

The candidates are the critical values of  $f(x)$  AND the endpoints! First justify any relative min/max AND find their function values. Then compare the function values to the endpoint values and decide which is the absolute min/max.

Extreme Value Theorem

If a function,  $f$ , is continuous on  $[a, b]$ , then  $f$  has both a maximum and a minimum value on  $[a, b]$ .

Mean Value Theorem

Your justification statement should look like:

By the Mean Value Theorem there is a  $c$ ,  $a < c < b$ , such that

$$\frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} = f'(c)$$

You need to supply all of the values!

### Rolle's Theorem [A "special" case of MVT]

Your justification statement should look like:

By Rolle's Theorem, since  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$  and differentiable on  $(a, b)$  AND  $f(a)=f(b)$ , then there is a  $c$ ,  $a < c < b$ , such that  $f'(c) = 0$ .

Note: You can always just use MVT.

Horizontal TANGENTS occur at  $x = a$  if  $f'(a) = 0$

Vertical TANGENTS occur at  $x = a$  if  $f'(a)$  is undefined but  $f(a)$  is defined

If  $f'(x)$  is of the form  $f'(x) = \frac{g(x)}{h(x)}$ , then  $f$  will have a horizontal tangent when  $g(x) = 0$  AND  $f$  will have a vertical tangent if  $h(x) = 0$ . [Of course  $f(x)$  must be defined for those values]

### Horizontal Asymptote

$y = b$  is a horizontal asymptote of the graph of  $y = f(x)$  if either

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = b \text{ OR } \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = b$$

### Limits of Rational Functions as $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$ [End Behavior]

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = 0 \text{ if the degree of } f(x) < \text{ the degree of } g(x)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \infty \text{ or "dne" if the degree of } f(x) > \text{ the degree of } g(x)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \text{ is finite [there is a horizontal asymptote] if}$$

$$\text{degree of } f(x) = \text{degree of } g(x)$$

Remember: A graph is NOT justification. You must use Calculus to justify any extrema, points of inflection, horizontal asymptotes, etc.

Remember:

If  $s(t)$  is the position function, then

Velocity,  $v(t) = s'(t)$

Acceleration,  $a(t) = v'(t) = s''(t)$

Speed is  $|v(t)|$

The speed of a particle is increasing at  $x = c$  if  $v(c)$  and  $a(c)$  are either both positive or both negative.

The speed of a particle is decreasing at  $x = c$  if  $v(c)$  and  $a(c)$  have different signs.

To justify that the speed of a particle is increasing at  $x = c$  you need to clearly state that  $v(c) > 0$  AND  $a(c) > 0$  OR  $v(c) < 0$  AND  $a(c) < 0$  in a statement.

To justify that the speed of a particle is decreasing at  $x = c$  you need to clearly state that  $v(c) > 0$  AND  $a(c) < 0$  OR  $v(c) < 0$  AND  $a(c) > 0$  in a statement.

## OPTIMIZATION

If necessary, you might want to draw a picture of what the problem is about.

Figure out what you are trying to optimize.

Find a primary equation that fits what you are trying to optimize.

If necessary, find a secondary equation that will allow you to re-write your primary equation in terms of just ONE VARIABLE.

Now just find the min or max using standard Calculus min/max techniques.