

Tuesday, September 3

Why does dividing by zero give
you a limit of positive or
negative infinity?

September 3 - Day 2

Students will verbally explain how to
find the limit analytically, graphically
and numerically
(using the words:
evaluate, simplify, right, left...)

1. Given the function

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 + 3x - 5}{x - 4}$$

- a. Create a table to find

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} f(x)$$

x	$f(x)$
0	
3	
3.1	
3.5	
3.9	
3.99	
3.999	

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} \frac{x^2 + 3x - 5}{x - 4} = -\infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^+} \frac{x^2 + 3x - 5}{x - 4} = +\infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 6^-} \frac{x^2 - 7x - 10}{x - 6} = +\infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 6^+} \frac{x^2 - 7x - 10}{x - 6} = -\infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} \frac{x+2}{(x-3)^2} = +\infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} \frac{x+2}{(x-3)^2} = +\infty$$

Numerator at $x=4$

$$4^2 + 3(4) - 5 = 23$$

Denominator before $x=4$

$$x = 3.9$$

$$3.9 - 4 = -0.1$$

$\frac{\text{positive}}{\text{negative}} = \text{negative}$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} \frac{4x^2 - 20}{x - 2}$$

$$= \frac{4(2)^2 - 20}{2 - 2} = \frac{-4}{0}$$

→ dividing by zero, going to $\pm \infty$

$$\text{top} = -4$$

$$\text{bottom} = 1.9 - 2 = -.1 \rightarrow \frac{\text{negative}}{\text{negative}} = \text{positive}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} \frac{4x^2 - 20}{x - 2} = +\infty$$