

*Continuity and the Intermediate Value Theorem (IVT)***Definition of Continuity at a Point:**

A function  $f$  is said to be \_\_\_\_\_ at  $x = c$  if and only if:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

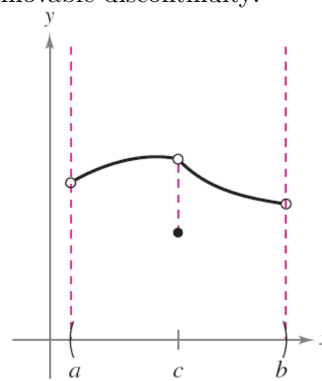
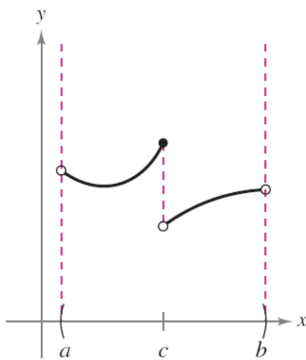
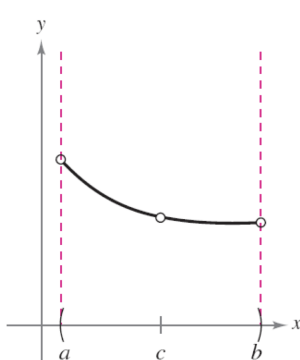
1. Sketch a graph of a function that demonstrates the following:

(a)  $f(c)$  is not defined

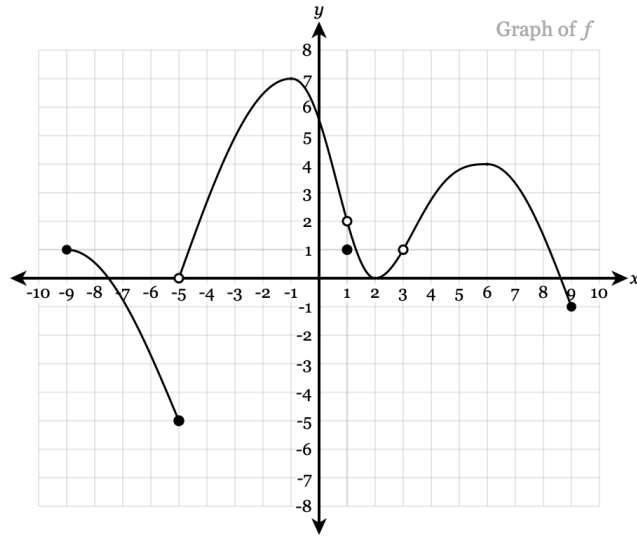
(b)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x)$  DNE

(c)  $f(c)$  IS defined and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x)$  DOES exist, but  $f(c) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x)$

2. For each graph, determine if the function has a Removable or Non-removable discontinuity:



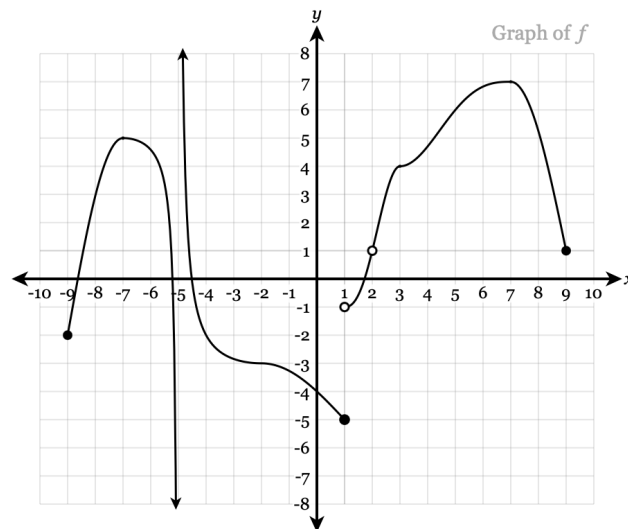
[http://webspace.ship.edu/msrenault/GeoGebraCalculus/continuity\\_at\\_a\\_point.html](http://webspace.ship.edu/msrenault/GeoGebraCalculus/continuity_at_a_point.html)



3. State all the values of  $x$  in the open interval  $(-9, 9)$  has:

(a) removable discontinuities:

(b) non-removable discontinuities:



4. State all the values of  $x$  in the open interval  $(-9, 9)$  has:

(a) removable discontinuities:

(b) non-removable discontinuities:

see *DeltaMath Lab "Types of Discontinuities (Graphically)"*, and *"Demonstrating Continuity from a Graph"*.

5. Let  $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - 2 \sin x & \text{for } x \leq 0 \\ e^{-4x} & \text{for } x > 0 \end{cases}$ . Show that  $f$  is continuous at  $x = 0$

(a)

(b)

(c)

6. Let  $f(x) = \begin{cases} -2x + 2 & \text{for } x \leq 0 \\ x^2 + 1 & \text{for } x > 0 \end{cases}$ . Is the function  $f$  continuous at  $x = 0$ ? Justify your answer.

(a)

(b)

(c)

7. Let  $f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 + kx & \text{if } x > 2 \\ 8x - k & \text{if } x \leq 2 \end{cases}$ .

Use the definition of continuity to find the value of  $k$  that will make the function continuous everywhere.

*see DeltaMath Lab "Continuity - Find k", and "Continuity"*

### The IVT (Intermediate Value Theorem)

3 Conditions: IF

1.  $f$  is \_\_\_\_\_ on the closed interval  $[a, b]$ ,

2.  $f(a)$  \_\_\_\_\_  $f(b)$

3. And there is a  $k$  where \_\_\_\_\_  $\leq k \leq$  \_\_\_\_\_,

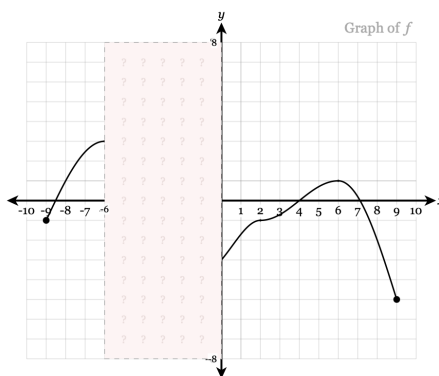
THEN there is at least one number  $c$  in  $[a, b]$  such that  $f(c) = k$

In other words, if and only if a function is \_\_\_\_\_ on a \_\_\_\_\_ interval  $[a, b]$ ,

$f$  takes on \_\_\_\_\_ value between  $f(a)$  and \_\_\_\_\_. Further, for any value  $k$  on  $[f(a), f(b)]$ ,

there MUST BE one or more numbers  $c$  on the interval \_\_\_\_\_ where  $f(c) =$  \_\_\_\_\_

8. The function  $f(x)$  is continuous on its domain of  $[-9, 9]$  and is plotted below such that the portion of the graph on the interval  $(-6, 0)$  is hidden from view. Given that  $f(-6) = 3$  and  $f(0) = -3$ , is there a value  $c$  on the interval  $(-6, 0)$  where  $f(c) = 0$ ?



(a) Check if Conditions are met (Can the IVT be applied? Why?):

(b) Next name the Theorem, and state the conclusion in context of this  $f$

1. “by the \_\_\_\_\_, since \_\_\_\_\_  $\leq 0 \leq$  \_\_\_\_\_,

2. there exists a value  $c$  where \_\_\_\_\_  $\leq c \leq$  \_\_\_\_\_

3. such that  $f(c) =$  \_\_\_\_\_.

4. “Hence, there is a value of  $c$  on the interval \_\_\_\_\_ where  $f(c) =$  \_\_\_\_\_

*see DeltaMath Lab “Intermediate Value Theorem” to practice this*

**Some Theorems That Can Be Used To Justify Continuity**

If  $f$  and  $g$  are known to be continuous functions :

1. \_\_\_\_\_ of continuous functions are continuous (i.e. if  $b \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $b * f(x)$  is continuous)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ of continuous functions are continuous (i.e.  $f(x) \pm g(x)$  is continuous)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ of continuous functions are continuous (i.e.  $f(x)g(x)$  is continuous)
4. \_\_\_\_\_ of continuous functions are continuous (i.e. if  $g(x) \neq 0$ ,  $\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$  is continuous)
5. \_\_\_\_\_ of continuous functions are continuous (i.e.  $f(g(x))$  is continuous)
6. \_\_\_\_\_ functions are continuous (i.e.  $y = x^n$  where  $n$  is an integer)
7. Sinusoidal functions are continuous (e.g.  $y = \sin(x)$  or  $y = \cos(x)$ )
8. Next chapter, we will discover that some functions can be called “differentiable.” There is a later theorem worth mentioning here: \_\_\_\_\_ functions must be continuous.

9. Given  $f(x) = x^2 + 5x - 6$ , are there one or more values of  $c$ ,  $-1 \leq c \leq 2$  where  $f(c) = 4$ ? Justify.  
*Hint:* Remember to check what  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$  are...

10. Given  $f(x) = x^2 + 3x - 1$ , are there one or more values of  $c$ ,  $-1 \leq c \leq 2$  where  $f(c) = 0$ ? Justify.

11. Given  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-2}$ , are there one or more values of  $c$ ,  $\frac{5}{7} \leq c \leq 7$  where  $f(c) = \frac{1}{4}$ ? Justify.

## Some AP Style Questions

12. Let  $f(x) = x^3 + 2x - 1$ . Show that  $f$  must have one or more zeros in the closed interval  $[0, 1]$
13. Functions  $g$  and  $h$  are differentiable with  $g(2) = h(2) = 4$ . It is known that  $g(x) \leq h(x)$  for  $1 < x < 3$ . Let  $k$  be a function satisfying

$$g(x) \leq k(x) \leq h(x)$$

for  $1 < x < 3$ . Is  $k$  continuous at  $x = 2$ ? Justify your answer.

*Hint:* They say, "If the only thing in your hand is a hammer, everything starts looking like a nail."

Section 1.4 has more than one big idea. Ask yourself, "Self, is this a job for the IVT, or the definition of Continuity?"

14. A certain train runs back and forth on an East-West section of railroad track. Its velocity, measured in meters per minute, is given by a differentiable function  $v(t)$ , where  $t$  is measured in minutes. Selected values for  $v(t)$  are given in the table below:

$t$ (minutes)	0	2	5	8	12
$v(t)$ in (meters/minute)	0	100	40	-120	-150

Do the data in the table support the conclusion that the train's velocity is  $-100$  meters per minute at some time  $t$  between  $t = 5$  minutes and  $t = 8$  minutes? Justify your answer.

15. The table below shows selected values of a continuous function  $g$ . For  $0 \leq x \leq 11$ , what is the fewest possible number of times that  $g(x) = 2$ ? Justify your answer.

$x$	0	2	5	9	11
$g(x)$	1	2.8	1.7	1	3.4