

1. A) Use your favorite limit definition of derivative to find $\frac{df}{dx}$ if $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+1}}$. Do not skip steps!

17 pts.

$$f'(x) = \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{f(z) - f(x)}{z - x}$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{z+1}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+1}}}{z - x}$$

$$= \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{\sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{z+1}}{\sqrt{z+1} \cdot \sqrt{x+1}} \cdot \frac{1}{z - x}$$

$$= \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{\sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{z+1}}{\sqrt{z+1} \cdot \sqrt{x+1}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{z+1}}{\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{z+1}} \cdot \frac{1}{z - x}$$

$$= \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{(x+1) - (z+1)}{(\sqrt{z+1} \sqrt{x+1})(\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{z+1})} \cdot \frac{1}{z - x}$$

$$= \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{x+1 - z - 1}{(\sqrt{z+1} \sqrt{x+1})(\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{z+1})} \cdot \frac{1}{z - x}$$

$$= \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{-(z-x)}{(\sqrt{z+1} \sqrt{x+1})(\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{z+1})} \cdot \frac{1}{z-x}$$

$$= \lim_{z \rightarrow x} \frac{-1}{(\sqrt{z+1} \sqrt{x+1})(\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{z+1})}$$

$$= \frac{-1}{(\sqrt{x+1} \sqrt{x+1})(\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{x+1})}$$

$$= \frac{-1}{(x+1) \sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{x+1}}$$

$$= \frac{-1}{(x+1)(2\sqrt{x+1})} = f'(x)$$

$$f'(0) = \frac{-1}{(0+1)2\sqrt{0+1}} = \frac{-1}{2\sqrt{1}} = -\frac{1}{2}$$

1. B) Now, what is $f'(0) = -\frac{1}{2}$?

3 pts.

1. C) Now give the equation of the tangent line to the graph of f at $(c, f(c))$ for $c=0$.

6 pts.

Give the equation in point-slope form!!

$$(y - y_1) = m(x - x_1)$$

$$(y - 1) = -\frac{1}{2}(x - 0)$$

$$f(0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{0+1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} = 1$$

1. D) For what values of x is f continuous? (Hint: Remember that we showed that the square root function is continuous on its domain; so what does that mean about where f is continuous?) Then,

4 pts.

f is continuous everywhere it is defined. So for $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+1}}$ must have $x+1 > 0 \Rightarrow x > -1$ or $(-1, \infty)$.