

## Unit 2: Applications in Algebra and Calculus (H7X1 77)

### Applying Algebraic and Calculus Skills to Properties of Functions

#### Domain/Range Restrictions:

##### Revision from Higher:

- $h(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \Rightarrow g(x) \neq 0, x \in \mathbb{R}$
- $h(x) = \sqrt{g(x)} \Rightarrow g(x) \geq 0, x \in \mathbb{R}$
- $h(x) = \log_n x \Rightarrow x > 0, x \in \mathbb{R}$
- $h(x) = \sin x$  or  $h(x) = \cos x \Rightarrow -1 \leq h(x) \leq 1, x \in \mathbb{R}$

Bk1 P97 Ex1  
Q1

Bk1 P102 Ex4  
Q1-3

##### From Advanced Higher (over to you):

- $h(x) = x! \Rightarrow x \geq 0, x \in \mathbb{N}_0$
- $h(x) = \sec x \Rightarrow$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $h(x) = \operatorname{cosec} x \Rightarrow$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $h(x) = \cot x \Rightarrow$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $h(x) = |g(x)| \Rightarrow$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $h(x) = \sin^{-1} x$  or  $h(x) = \cos^{-1} x \Rightarrow$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $h(x) = \tan^{-1} x \Rightarrow$  \_\_\_\_\_

## Inverse Functions:

### Revision from Higher:

- Let  $f(x) = y$   $f(x) = 2x + 1 \Rightarrow y = 2x + 1$
- Make  $x$  the subject  $x = \frac{y-1}{2}$
- Re-write using  $f^{-1}(x)$  notation  $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x-1}{2}$

Bk1 P100 Ex3  
Q1 & 2

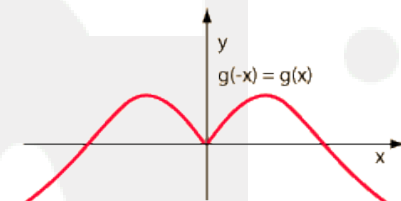
### Transformation of Functions (2<sup>nd</sup> Reminder):

$f(x) \rightarrow$	Transformation	Change in $(x, y)$
$-f(x)$	Reflection in x-axis	$(x, y) \rightarrow (x, -y)$
$f(-x)$	Reflection in y-axis	$(x, y) \rightarrow (-x, y)$
$kf(x)$	Vertical stretch ( $k > 1$ )	$(x, y) \rightarrow (x, ky)$
$f(kx)$	Horizontal compression ( $k > 1$ )	$(x, y) \rightarrow (\frac{x}{k}, y)$
$f^{-1}(x)$	Reflection in $y = x$	$(x, y) \rightarrow (y, x)$
$f'(x)$	SP's become roots	SP $(x, y) \rightarrow (x, 0)$

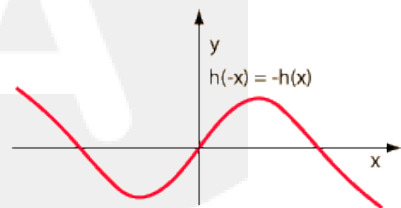
## Odd and Even Functions:

If  $g(-x) = g(x)$  then  $g(x)$  is said to be **EVEN** i.e. reflection in y-axis.  $(x, y) \rightarrow (-x, y)$

If  $h(-x) = -h(x)$  then  $h(x)$  is said to be **ODD** i.e. half turn symmetry about the origin.  $(x, y) \rightarrow (-x, -y)$



Even function



Odd function

- ❶ Is  $f(x) = 2x^2 + 5$  an odd or even function?

Step 1: Substitute  $-x$  for  $x$ :  $f(-x) = 2(-x)^2 + 5$

Step 2: Simplify:  $f(-x) = 2x^2 + 5$

Step 3: State conclusion:

$f(-x) = f(x)$  so  $f(x)$  is an **EVEN** function.

- ② Is  $f(x) = 3x^5 + 7x^3 - 4x$  an odd or even function?

$$f(-x) = 3(-x)^5 + 7(-x)^3 - 4(-x)$$

$$f(-x) = -3x^5 - 7x^3 + 4x$$

$$f(-x) = -(3x^5 + 7x^3 - 4x)$$

$f(-x) = -f(x)$  so  $f(x)$  is an **ODD** function.

- ③ Is  $f(x) = 2x^2 + x$  an odd or an even function?

$$f(-x) = 2(-x)^2 + (-x)$$

$$f(-x) = 2x^2 - x$$

So  $f(x)$  is neither an odd nor an even function.

- ④ Is  $f(x) = \sin x$  an odd or an even function?

$$f(-x) = \sin(-x) = -\sin x$$

$f(-x) = -f(x)$  so  $f(x) = \sin x$  is an **ODD** function.

- ⑤ Is  $f(x) = \cos x$  an odd or an even function?

$$f(-x) = \cos(-x) = \cos x$$

$f(-x) = f(x)$  so  $f(x) = \cos x$  is an **EVEN** function.

Bk 1 P108  
Ex8

Q1, 2 &  
3(1<sup>st</sup> col)

### Sketching Polynomials: Reminder

- Find the zeros i.e. where it
  - cuts the y-axis  $x = 0 \Rightarrow f(0)$
  - cuts the x-axis (roots)  $y = 0 \Rightarrow f(x) = 0$
- Find the Stationary Points  $f'(x) = 0$
- Identify the nature of the SPs  $f''(x)$ /nature table
- Sketch the graph

Bk 1 P103/4 Ex5

Q1a, d & 2a, d

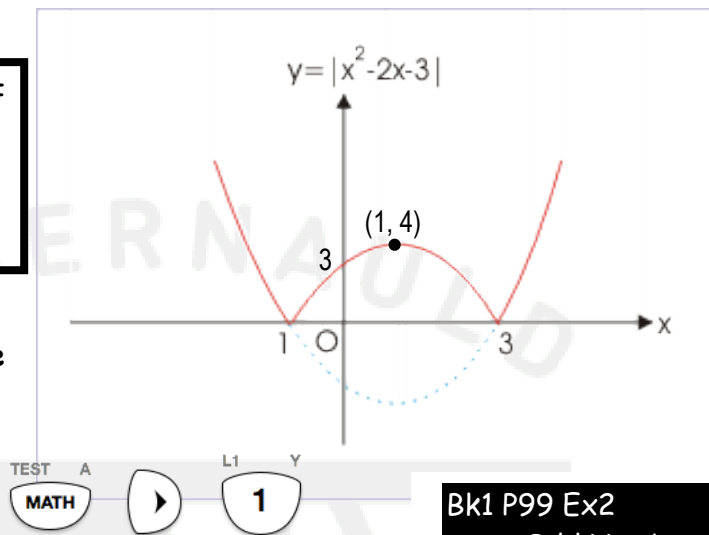
## Modulus Function

Reflect any negative parts of the graph in the x-axis.

$$(x, y) \rightarrow (x, |y|)$$

All the key points should be indicated on the graph (i.e. zeros and SPs)

Use the graphics calculator:

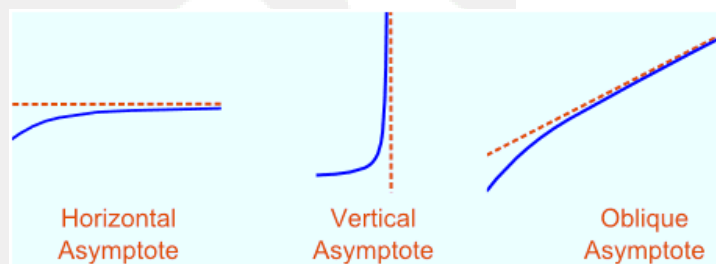


## Asymptotes:

An asymptote is a line (or curve) that the graph of a function approaches, as it heads towards infinity.

Asymptotes exist when we are dealing with rational

functions  $h(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$



## Vertical Asymptotes

If  $g(a) = 0$  then the rational function  $h(x)$  is not defined at  $x = a$ .

Thus, as  $x \rightarrow a$ ,  $h(x) \rightarrow \pm\infty$ , the function is said to be **discontinuous** at  $a$  and  $x = a$  is a vertical asymptote of the function.

## Non-Vertical Asymptotes

**Reminder:** An improper rational function occurs when the degree of the numerator **is equal to or greater** than the degree of the denominator.

An improper function should be reduced, by polynomial division, to the sum of a quotient function and a **proper** rational fraction, i.e.:

$$h(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = q(x) + \frac{r(x)}{g(x)}$$

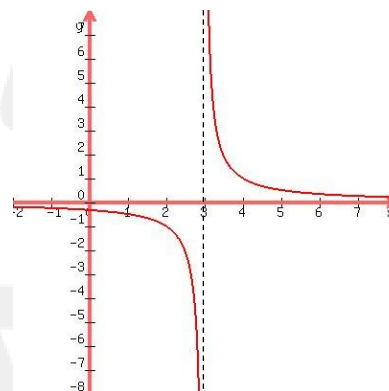
- If  $q(x) = a$  (a constant) then  $y = a$  is a horizontal asymptote.
- If  $q(x) = mx + c$  then  $y = mx + c$  is an oblique asymptote, etc.

- ⑥ Identify the vertical asymptote of  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-3}$  and describe the behaviour of the function as it approaches its asymptote from both sides.

Denominator is 0 when  $x = 3$  so this is vertical asymptote.

As  $x \rightarrow 3$  from left,  $x - 3 < 0$  so  $\frac{1}{x-3} < 0$   
i.e.  $f(x) \rightarrow \infty^-$

As  $x \rightarrow 3$  from right,  $x - 3 > 0$  so  $\frac{1}{x-3} > 0$   
i.e.  $f(x) \rightarrow \infty^+$



NB Numerator  $\neq 0$  so  $y = 0$  is a horizontal asymptote.

- ⑦ Identify the vertical asymptotes of  $f(x) = \frac{2x-2}{x^2-4}$  and describe the behaviour of the function as it approaches its asymptotes from both sides.

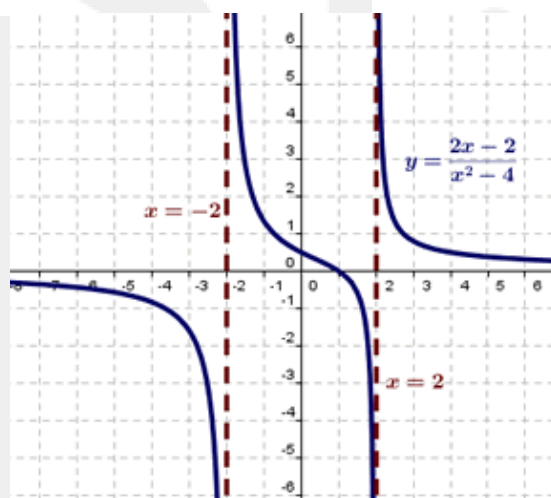
Denominator is 0 when  $x^2 - 4 = 0 \Rightarrow x = \pm 2$  so  $x = 2$  and  $x = -2$  are the vertical asymptotes.

As  $x \rightarrow 2$  from right,  $2x - 2 > 0$  and  $x^2 - 4 > 0$  i.e.  $f(x) \rightarrow \infty^+$

As  $x \rightarrow 2$  from left,  $2x - 2 > 0$  and  $x^2 - 4 < 0$  i.e.  $f(x) \rightarrow \infty^-$

As  $x \rightarrow -2$  from right,  $2x - 2 < 0$  and  $x^2 - 4 < 0$  i.e.  $f(x) \rightarrow \infty^+$

As  $x \rightarrow -2$  from left,  $2x - 2 < 0$  and  $x^2 - 4 > 0$  i.e.  $f(x) \rightarrow \infty^-$



NB Numerator can = 0 so  $y = 0$  is not a horizontal asymptote this time.

Bk 1 P109 Ex9

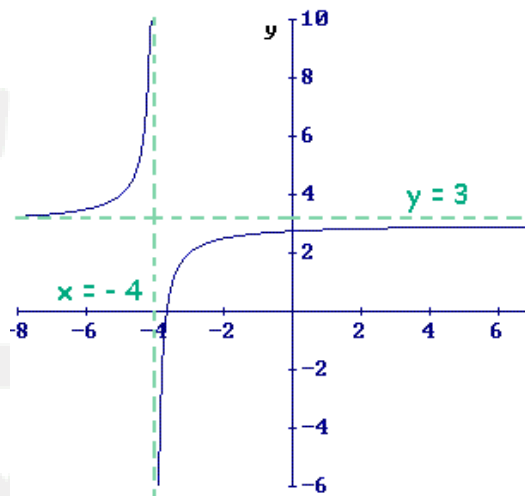
Q1(1<sup>st</sup> col)

- 8 Identify the asymptotes of  $f(x) = \frac{3x+11}{x+4}$  and describe the behaviour of the function as it approaches these asymptotes.

Denominator is 0 when  $x = -4$   
so this is vertical asymptote.

As  $x \rightarrow -4$  from left,  $3x + 11 < 0$   
and  $x + 4 < 0$  i.e.  $f(x) \rightarrow \infty^+$

As  $x \rightarrow -4$  from right,  $3x + 11 < 0$   
and  $x + 4 > 0$  i.e.  $f(x) \rightarrow \infty^-$



By polynomial division  $\frac{3x+11}{x+4} = 3 - \frac{1}{x+4}$

**NB - SQA marking instructions stipulate:**

Points of expected response	Illustrative scheme
• <sup>1</sup> rewrite equation in quotient/remainder form	$y = 3 - \frac{1}{x+4}$
• <sup>2</sup> state what happens as $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$ and give equation of non-vertical asymptote	As $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$ , $y \rightarrow 3$ and $\frac{1}{x+4} \rightarrow 0$ $\therefore y = 3$
Notes: An answer of $y = 3$ only gains 1 mark.	

so  $y = 3$  is horizontal asymptote

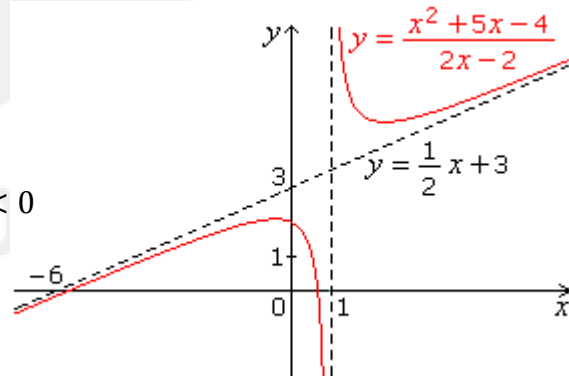
As  $x \rightarrow \infty^+$ ,  $y \rightarrow 3 - 0^+$  so asymptote approaches from below.

As  $x \rightarrow \infty^-$ ,  $y \rightarrow 3 - 0^-$  so asymptote approaches from above.

- 9 Identify the asymptotes of  $f(x) = \frac{x^2+5x-4}{2x-2}$  and describe the behaviour of the function as it approaches these asymptotes.

Denominator is 0 when  $x = 1$  so  
this is vertical asymptote.

As  $x \rightarrow 1$  from left,  $x^2 + 5x - 4 < 0$   
and  $2x - 2 > 0$  i.e.  $f(x) \rightarrow \infty^-$



As  $x \rightarrow 1$  from right,  $x^2 + 5x - 4 > 0$  and  $2x - 2 > 0$  i.e.  $f(x) \rightarrow \infty^+$

By polynomial division  $\frac{x^2+5x-4}{2x-2} = \frac{1}{2}x + 3 + \frac{2}{2x-2}$

As  $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$ ,  $y \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}x + 3$  and  $\frac{2}{2x-2} \rightarrow 0 \therefore y = \frac{1}{2}x + 3$  is an oblique asymptote

As  $x \rightarrow \infty^+$ ,  $y \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}\infty^+ + 3 + 0^+$  so asymptote approaches from above.

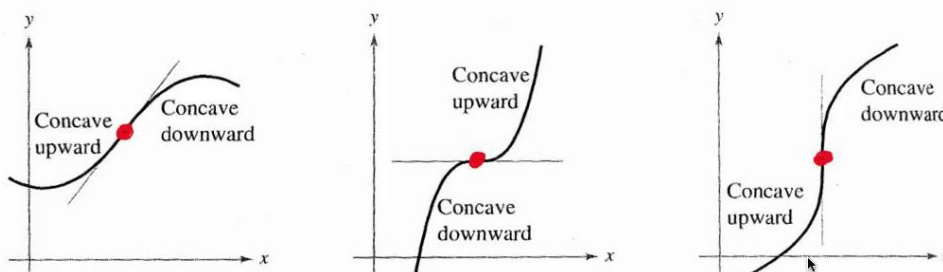
As  $x \rightarrow \infty^-$ ,  $y \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}\infty^- + 3 + 0^-$  so asymptote approaches from below.

Bk1 P110/111 Ex10

Q1(1<sup>st</sup> column), 2 & 3

## Concavity and Points of Inflexion

In mathematics we call a region in which the gradient is increasing **CONCAVE UP**, and one in which the gradient is decreasing **CONCAVE DOWN**.



**A point of inflexion occurs where a function changes concavity.**

The first derivative,  $f'(x)$ , measures the rate of change of the function  $f(x)$  with respect to  $x$ .

The second derivative,  $f''(x)$ , measures the rate of change of the gradient with respect to  $x$ .

- When this is positive, i.e.  $f''(x) > 0$ , then the curve is **concave up**.
- When this is negative, i.e.  $f''(x) < 0$ , then the curve is **concave down**.
- When neither, i.e.  $f''(x) = 0$ , then it is **INCONCLUSIVE**.

**Some Stationary Points are POINTS OF INFLEXION ( $f''(x) = 0$ ) but not all POINTS OF INFLEXION are Stationary Points ( $f'(x) \neq 0$ ).**

Points of inflexion occur where  $f''(x) = 0$  (or where  $f''(x)$  does not exist) and require a nature table with  $f''(x)$  to confirm there has been a change in concavity.

- 1 0 Find the stationary point of  $f(x) = x^4$  and determine its nature.

$$f'(x) = 4x^3 \quad \text{SPs @ } f'(x) = 0 \text{ so } 4x^3 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0. \text{ SP @ } (0, 0)$$

$$f''(x) = 12x^2 \Rightarrow f''(0) = 0 \text{ so PI???$$

Table of signs:

$x$	$\rightarrow$	0	$\rightarrow$
$f''(x)$	+	0	+
Concavity	up		up

**No change in concavity so not a point of inflexion!**

**$f''(a) = 0$  is not enough evidence to show PI.**

- 1 1 Find the stationary point of  $f(x) = x^5$  and determine its nature

$$f'(x) = 5x^4 \quad \text{SPs @ } f'(x) = 0 \text{ so } 5x^4 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0. \text{ SP @ } (0, 0)$$

$$f''(x) = 20x^3 \Rightarrow f''(0) = 0 \text{ so PI?}$$

Table of signs:

$x$	$\rightarrow$	0	$\rightarrow$
$f''(x)$	-	0	+
Concavity	down		up

**Change in concavity so point of inflexion.**

- 1 2 Identify the points of inflexion of the curve  $y = \cos x$  over the interval  $0 \leq x \leq 2\pi$ .

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\sin x \Rightarrow \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = -\cos x \quad \text{Set } \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0 \text{ so } -\cos x = 0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2}$$

Table of signs:

$x$	$\rightarrow$	$\frac{\pi}{2}$	$\rightarrow$	$\frac{3\pi}{2}$	$\rightarrow$
$f''(x)$	-	0	+	0	-
Concavity	down		up		down

**NB - these are  
PIs but not SPs**

**Change in concavity so points of inflexion at  $(\frac{\pi}{2}, 0)$  and  $(\frac{3\pi}{2}, 0)$ .**

- At  $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$ , gradient of tangent is  $-\sin \frac{\pi}{2} = -1$
- At  $x = \frac{3\pi}{2}$ , gradient of tangent is  $-\sin \frac{3\pi}{2} = +1$



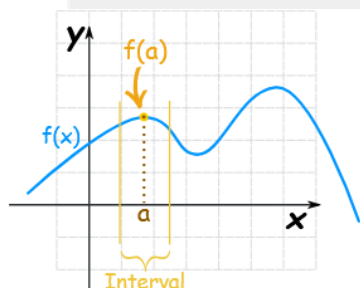
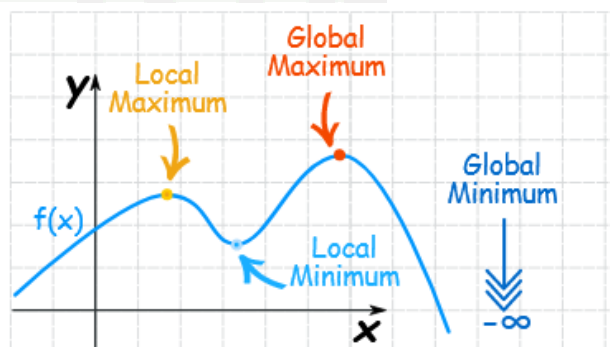
## Critical Points

Assuming that  $a$  is in the domain of a function  $f$ , then a **CRITICAL POINT** of the function is any point  $(a, f(a))$  where  $f'(a) = 0$  (SPs) or  $f'(a)$  is undefined (e.g  $f(x) = x - \sqrt{x}$  ( $x \geq 0$ )  $\Rightarrow f'(x) = 1 - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$ ,  $x = 0$  is in the domain but  $f'(0)$  does not exist).

If  $(a, f(a))$  is a critical point of a function then  $a$  is referred to as a **CRITICAL NUMBER** and  $f(a)$  as a **CRITICAL VALUE** of the function.

## Extreme Values of a Function (Extrema)

**Maxima** and **minima** are critical points where a function reaches a highest or lowest value, respectively. There are three kinds of **extrema** (a word meaning maximum or minimum): **global** (absolute), **local** (relative) and **end-point**. A global maximum is a point that takes the largest value on the entire range of the function, while a global minimum is the point that takes the smallest value on the range of the function.



Local extrema are the largest or smallest values of the function in a given domain or interval.

Reminder (from Higher):



closed interval  $[a, b]$       open interval  $(a, b)$



half-closed interval  $[a, b)$       half-closed interval  $(a, b]$

Extrema can occur at interior points or end-points of an interval.

Extrema that occur at end-points are called **ENDPOINT EXTREMA**.

Bk1 P56/57 Ex2  
Q3b, d, f, h

Bk1 P60/61 Ex3  
Q1a, c, e, 4

## Sketching Graphs - remember you have a graphics calculator!!!

When sketching curves, gather as much information as possible from the list below:

1. Zeros (intercepts)
  - a. y-intercept - sub  $x = 0$
  - b. x-intercept (roots) - make  $y = 0$  usually requires factorising.
2. Asymptotes
  - a. Vertical asymptotes - make denominator = 0 and solve, check for  $\infty^{\pm}$  to the left and right of vertical asymptote.
  - b. Non-vertical asymptote - polynomial division,  $y = q(x)$  is non-vertical asymptote, check above/below for  $x \rightarrow \infty^{\pm}$
3. Stationary Points
  - a. Make 1<sup>st</sup> derivative = 0 and solve (numerator = 0 for rational functions)
  - b. Use 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative to determine concavity (i.e. min/max TP)
  - c. If 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative = 0 then use a table of signs as INCONCLUSIVE.
4. Check for any Points of Inflexion
  - a. Make 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative = 0 and solve
  - b. Check there has been a change in concavity using a table of signs.
5. Closed/Open Interval - include end-points

**1 3** Sketch the graph of  $y = \frac{x^2 - x - 2}{x - 3}$

y-intercept:  $x = 0 \Rightarrow y = \frac{-2}{-3} = \frac{2}{3} \Rightarrow (\frac{2}{3}, 0)$

x-intercept:  $y = 0 \Rightarrow y = x^2 - x - 2 = 0 \Rightarrow (x - 2)(x + 1) = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow x = 2$  or  $x = -1 \Rightarrow (-1, 0)$  and  $(2, 0)$

Vertical asymptote:  $x - 3 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 3$

As  $x \rightarrow 3$  from left,  $x^2 - x - 2 > 0$  and  $x - 3 < 0$  i.e.  $f(x) \rightarrow \infty^-$

As  $x \rightarrow 3$  from right,  $x^2 - x - 2 > 0$  and  $x - 3 > 0$  i.e.  $f(x) \rightarrow \infty^+$

Non-vertical asymptote:  $y = \frac{x^2-x-2}{x-3} = x + 2 + \frac{4}{x-3} \Rightarrow y = x + 2$

As  $x \rightarrow \infty^+$ ,  $y \rightarrow \infty^+ + 2 + 0^+$  so asymptote approaches from above.

As  $x \rightarrow \infty^-$ ,  $y \rightarrow \infty^- + 2 + 0^-$  so asymptote approaches from below.

Stationary Points:  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 1 - \frac{4}{(x-3)^2}$  (use divided version)

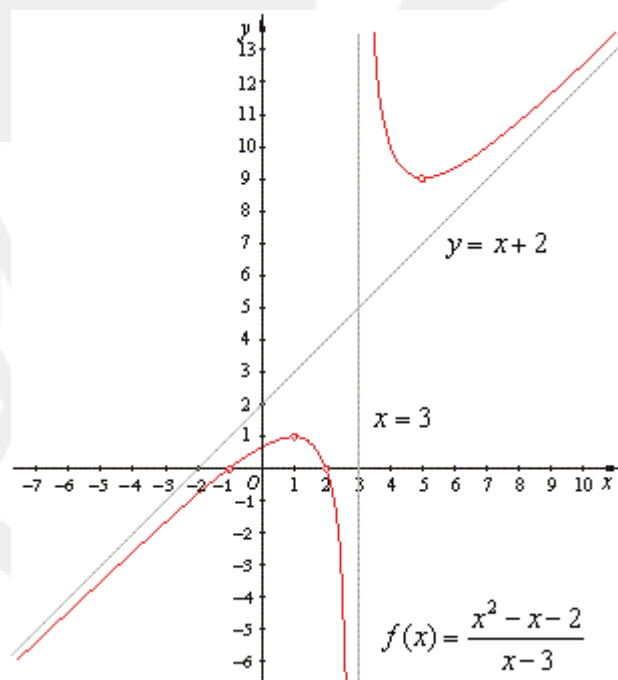
$$1 - \frac{4}{(x-3)^2} = 0 \Rightarrow (x-3)^2 = 4$$

$x - 3 = \pm 2 \Rightarrow x = 1$  and  $x = 5$  so SPs @ (1,1) and (5,9)

$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{8}{(x-3)^3}$ , at  $x = 1$   $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = -1 \Rightarrow$  concave down so Max TP

at  $x = 5$   $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 1 \Rightarrow$  concave up so Min TP

Points of inflexion:  $8 \neq 0$  so  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \neq 0$  so no points of inflexion



**NB - make sure that intercepts of asymptotes are also labelled.**

Bk1 P112 Ex11

Q1(1<sup>st</sup> col), 2, 4