Sample explanations for Calculus Practice Tests from www.mathprotutoring.com/tests Solutions to selected problems:

1.
$$\lim_{x \to -5^-} \frac{3x^2 - x - 4}{x + 5}$$
$$\lim_{x \to 5^-} \frac{3x^2 - x - 4}{x + 5} = \frac{3(-5)^2 - (-5) - 4}{(-5) + 5} = \frac{76}{0},$$
which means the answer is either ∞ or $-\infty$.
We are approaching -5 from the left; therefore, the values of x are less than -5.
Therefore, $x + 5$ is slightly negative. So, our 'answer' of $\frac{76}{0}$ is really a positive value divided by a 'slightly negative' zero. So, the answer must be negative:
 $-\infty$.

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Use the limit definition of a derivative to find the derivative of the function: 2. $g(x) = \frac{3}{x}$ $g(x) = \frac{3}{x}, \quad g(x+h) = \frac{3}{x+h}$ By the limit definition, $g'(x) = \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{g(x+h) - g(x)}{h}$ $=\lim_{h\to 0}\frac{\frac{3}{x+h}-\frac{3}{x}}{h}$ $=\lim_{h\to 0}\frac{\left(\frac{3}{x+h}-\frac{3}{x}\right)\cdot x(x+h)}{h\cdot x(x+h)}$ $= \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{3x - 3(x+h)}{hx(x+h)} = \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{-3/h}{h(x+h)}$ $= \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{-3}{x(x+h)} = -\frac{3}{x^2}$ $g'(x) = -\frac{3}{x^2}$

* Test strategy hint: Verify that this answer is correct by using the Power Rule. Sample explanations for Calculus Practice Tests from www.mathprotutoring.com/tests

- 3. A particle moves along the graph of xy = x + 10 so that $\frac{dx}{dt} = 4x + 4$.
 - What is $\frac{dy}{dt}$ when x = 2? 1. <u>Background info / formula</u>: xy = x + 102. <u>Given info</u>: $\frac{dx}{dt} = 4x + 4$ 3. <u>Find ()</u>, when (): Find $\frac{dy}{dt}$ when x = 2. We'll also need to know the value of y when x = 2, so use the formula from part 1 to find it: $xy = x + 10 \rightarrow 2y = 2 + 10 \rightarrow y = 6$. So, really it's "Find $\frac{dy}{dt}$ when x = 2 and y = 6." Now, differentiate the formula from part 1 with respect to t. Use the product rule for the first term:

$$x \cdot \frac{dy}{dt} + y \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{dx}{dt}$$

Plug in the given info from part 2 and the "when" from part 3:

$$x \cdot \frac{dy}{dt} + y \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{dx}{dt} \rightarrow x \cdot \frac{dy}{dt} + y \cdot (4x + 4) = 4x + 4$$
$$\rightarrow 2 \cdot \frac{dy}{dt} + 6 \cdot (4 \cdot 2 + 4) = 4 \cdot 2 + 4$$

Solve for the "find":

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -30$$