

Ch. 1.3 Evaluating Limits Algebraically Classwork Problems

Algebraic Steps: 1) Plug in x-value first 2) If result is a real number value, the value is the limit. 3) If the result is $\frac{0}{0}$ (indeterminate form) then reduce by i) factoring ii) conjugate method iii) simplify complex fraction 4) Re-evaluate the reduced Expression

1)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (2x^3 - 6x + 5)$$

2)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{\sqrt{x+6}}{x+2}$$

3)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 + 3x}{x}$$

4)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^4 - 5x^2}{x^2}$$

5)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{x^2 - 1}{x + 1}$$

6)

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

Difference of cubes: $a^3 - b^3 = (a - b)(a^2 + ab + b^2)$ Sum of cubes: $a^3 + b^3 = (a + b)(a^2 - ab + b^2)$

7)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^3 - 8}{x - 2}$$

8)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{x^3 + 1}{x + 1}$$

9)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{x - 4}{x^2 - 16}$$

10)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} \frac{5 - x}{x^2 - 25}$$

11)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -3} \frac{x^2 + x - 6}{x^2 - 9}$$

12)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^2 + 2x - 8}{x^2 - x - 2}$$

13) *conjugate method

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{\sqrt{x + 5} - 3}{x - 4}$$

14) *conjugate method

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{\sqrt{x + 1} - 2}{x - 3}$$

15)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x+5} - \sqrt{5}}{x}$$

16)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{2+x} - \sqrt{2}}{x}$$

17) *Simplify Complex Fraction

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{3+x} - \frac{1}{3}}{x}$$

18) *Simplify Complex Fraction

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4+x}}{x}$$

19)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 16} \frac{4 - \sqrt{x}}{x - 16}$$

20)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x+2} - \sqrt{2}}{x}$$

Algebraic Steps: 1) Plug in x-value first 2) If result is a real number value, the value is the limit. 3) If the result is $\frac{0}{0}$ (indeterminate form) then reduce by i) factoring ii) conjugate method iii) simplify complex fraction 4) Re-evaluate Expression

21)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2 - 4}{x^2 - 3x + 2}$$

22)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2 - 2x + 1}{x^3 - x}$$

23)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{x^2 + 7x - 44}{x^2 - 6x + 8}$$

24)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{1 + 2x} - 1}{3x}$$

25)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} \frac{\sqrt{x - 1} - 2}{x^2 - 25}$$

26)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{x - 4}}{x}$$

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Key

Algebraic Steps: 1) Plug in x-value first 2) If result is a real number value, the value is the limit. 3) If the result is $\frac{0}{0}$ (indeterminate form) then reduce by i) factoring

ii) conjugate method iii) simplify complex fraction 4) Re-evaluate Expression/Limit

1)

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (2x^3 - 6x + 5) \\ 2(1)^3 - 6(1) + 5 \\ = 2 - 6 + 5 = -4 + 5 \\ = \boxed{1}\end{aligned}$$

2)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{\sqrt{x+6}}{x+2} \rightarrow \frac{\sqrt{3+6}}{3+2} = \frac{\sqrt{9}}{5} = \frac{3}{5} = \boxed{\frac{3}{5}}$$

3)

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 + 3x}{x} &\rightarrow \frac{0^2 + 3(0)}{0} = \frac{0}{0} \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(x+3)}{\cancel{x}} &= 0 + 3 = \boxed{3}\end{aligned}$$

4)

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^4 - 5x^2}{x^2} &\rightarrow \frac{0^4 - 5(0)^2}{0^2} = \frac{0}{0} \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2(x^2 - 5)}{\cancel{x^2}} &\rightarrow 0^2 - 5 = \boxed{-5}\end{aligned}$$

5)

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{x^2 - 1}{x + 1} &\rightarrow \frac{(-1)^2 - 1}{-1 + 1} = \frac{0}{0} \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{(x-1)(\cancel{x+1})}{(\cancel{x+1})} &\rightarrow -1 - 1 = \boxed{-2}\end{aligned}$$

6)

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow -2} \frac{3x^2 + 5x - 2}{x + 2} &\rightarrow \frac{3(-2)^2 + 5(-2) - 2}{2 - 2} = \frac{0}{0} \\ \begin{array}{r} a \cdot c \\ 6 \quad -6 \quad -1 \\ \hline 3 \quad 5 \quad 3 \\ b \end{array} \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow -2} \frac{(x+2)(3x-1)}{\cancel{(x+2)}} &= 3(-2) - 1 = \boxed{-7}\end{aligned}$$

Difference of cubes: $a^3 - b^3 = (a - b)(a^2 + ab + b^2)$ Sum of cubes: $a^3 + b^3 = (a + b)(a^2 - ab + b^2)$

7) $x^3 - 2^3 = (x - 2)(x^2 + 2x + 4)$ 8)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^3 - 8}{x - 2} \rightarrow \frac{2^3 - 8}{2 - 2} = \frac{0}{0}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{x^3 + 1}{x + 1} \rightarrow \frac{(-1)^3 + 1}{-1 + 1} = \frac{0}{0}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{(x - 2)(x^2 + 2x + 4)}{(x - 2)} = 2^2 + 2(2) + 4 = \boxed{12}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \frac{(x + 1)(x^2 - 1(x + 1))}{(x + 1)} = (-1)^2 - 1(-1) + 1 = \boxed{3}$$

9)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{x - 4}{x^2 - 16} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$$

10)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} \frac{5 - x}{x^2 - 25} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{x - 4}{(x - 4)(x + 4)} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{1}{x + 4} = \boxed{\frac{1}{8}}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} \frac{-(-5 + x)}{(x + 5)(x - 5)} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 5} \frac{-1}{x + 5} = \boxed{-\frac{1}{10}}$$

11)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -3} \frac{x^2 + x - 6}{x^2 - 9} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow -3} \frac{(x + 3)(x - 2)}{(x - 3)(x + 3)}$$

12)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^2 + 2x - 8}{x^2 - x - 2} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -3} \frac{x - 2}{x - 3} = \frac{-5}{-6} = \boxed{\frac{5}{6}}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{(x + 4)(x - 2)}{(x - 2)(x + 1)} = \frac{6}{3} = \boxed{2}$$

13) *conjugate method

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{\sqrt{x + 5} - 3}{x - 4} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$$

14) *conjugate method

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{\sqrt{x + 1} - 2}{x - 3} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{(\sqrt{x + 5} - 3)(\sqrt{x + 5} + 3)}{(x - 4)(\sqrt{x + 5} + 3)}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{(\sqrt{x + 1} - 2)(\sqrt{x + 1} + 2)}{(x - 3)(\sqrt{x + 1} + 2)}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{x + 5 - 9}{(x - 4)(\sqrt{x + 5} + 3)} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{(x - 4)}{(x - 4)(\sqrt{x + 5} + 3)}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{x + 1 - 4}{(x - 3)(\sqrt{x + 1} + 2)} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{(x - 3)}{(x - 3)(\sqrt{x + 1} + 2)}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x + 5} + 3} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{9} + 3} = \boxed{\frac{1}{6}}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{1}{(\sqrt{x + 1} + 2)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4} + 2} = \boxed{\frac{1}{4}}$$

15)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x+5} - \sqrt{5}}{x} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x+5} - \sqrt{5}}{x} \cdot \frac{(\sqrt{x+5} + \sqrt{5})}{(\sqrt{x+5} + \sqrt{5})}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x+5-5}{x(\sqrt{x+5} + \sqrt{5})} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+5} + \sqrt{5}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{5}}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{2\sqrt{5}}}$$

17) *Simplify Complex Fraction

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{3+x} - \frac{1}{3}}{x} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{3+x} - \frac{1}{3}}{x} \cdot \frac{3(x+3)}{3(x+3)}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{3 - (x+3)}{x(3)(x+3)} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{3-x-3}{3(x)(x+3)}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-1}{3(x+3)} = \boxed{\frac{-1}{9}}$$

19)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 16} \frac{4 - \sqrt{x}}{x - 16} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 16} \frac{(4 - \sqrt{x})(4 + \sqrt{x})}{x - 16} \cdot \frac{(4 + \sqrt{x})}{(4 + \sqrt{x})} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 16} \frac{16 - x}{(x - 16)(4 + \sqrt{x})}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 16} \frac{-(-16+x)}{(x-16)(4+\sqrt{x})} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 16} \frac{-1}{4+\sqrt{x}}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 16} \frac{-1}{4+\sqrt{16}} = \frac{-1}{4+4} = \boxed{\frac{-1}{8}}$$

16)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{2+x} - \sqrt{2}}{x} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(\sqrt{2+x} - \sqrt{2})(\sqrt{2+x} + \sqrt{2})}{x \cdot (\sqrt{2+x} + \sqrt{2})}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2+x-2}{x(\sqrt{2+x} + \sqrt{2})} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{(\sqrt{2+x} + \sqrt{2})} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{2}}$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}}}$$

18) *Simplify Complex Fraction

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4+x}}{x} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{4+x}}{x} \cdot \frac{4(4+x)}{4(4+x)}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{4+x-4}{x \cdot 4(4+x)} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{4(4+x)} = \frac{1}{4(4)} = \boxed{\frac{1}{16}}$$

20)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x+2} - \sqrt{2}}{x} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(\sqrt{x+2} - \sqrt{2})(\sqrt{x+2} + \sqrt{2})}{x \cdot (\sqrt{x+2} + \sqrt{2})}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x+2-2}{x(\sqrt{x+2} + \sqrt{2})} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+2} + \sqrt{2}}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{2}} = \boxed{\frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}}}$$

Algebraic Steps: 1) Plug in x-value first 2) If result is a real number value, the value is the limit. 3) If the result is $\frac{0}{0}$ (indeterminate form) then reduce by i) factoring ii) conjugate method iii) simplify complex fraction 4) Re-evaluate Expression

21)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2 - 4}{x^2 - 3x + 2} \rightarrow \frac{-3}{0}$$

undefined, limit does not exist

22)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2 - 2x + 1}{x^3 - x} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{(x-1)(x-1)}{x(x^2-1)} \rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{\cancel{(x-1)}(x-1)}{x\cancel{(x-1)}(x+1)}$$

$$\frac{0}{1(2)} = \boxed{0}$$

23)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{x^2 + 7x - 44}{x^2 - 6x + 8} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4} \frac{(x+11)\cancel{(x-4)}}{\cancel{(x-4)}(x-2)} \rightarrow \boxed{\frac{15}{2}}$$

24)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{1+2x} - 1}{3x} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{1+2x} - 1}{3x} \cdot \frac{(\sqrt{1+2x} + 1)}{(\sqrt{1+2x} + 1)}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1+2x-1}{3x(\sqrt{1+2x} + 1)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{2}{3(\sqrt{1+2x} + 1)} = \frac{2}{3(2)} = \boxed{\frac{1}{3}}$$

25)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} \frac{\sqrt{x-1} - 2}{x^2 - 25} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0} \quad \left(\frac{\sqrt{x-1} + 2}{\sqrt{x-1} + 2} \right)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} \frac{x-1-4}{(x+5)(x-5)(\sqrt{x-1} + 2)}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 5} \frac{1}{(x+5)(\sqrt{x-1} + 2)} = \frac{1}{(10)(\sqrt{4} + 2)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{10(4)} = \boxed{\frac{1}{40}}$$

26)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{x-4}}{x} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0} \quad \frac{4(x-4)}{4(x-4)}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x-4+4}{x(4)(x-4)}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{4(x-4)} = \frac{1}{4(-4)} = \boxed{-\frac{1}{16}}$$