

Unit 2 (2.3) Compositions Notes

Compositions: the range of the first function becomes the domain of the second function...a series of substitutions

Recall:

$$\text{if } f(x) = x^2 - 2x + 7$$

$$\text{then } f(5) = (5)^2 - 2(5) + 7$$

$$\text{so } f(5) = 22$$

In other words: if the input is 5 the output is 22; (5, 22)

To do a composition you will do substitution TWICE

$$g(x) = 3x - 4 \text{ and } f(x) = x^2 - 2x + 7$$

$$g(f(5)) \quad \leftarrow \text{do } f(5) \text{ first (see above), since } f(5) = 22 \\ \text{substitute 22 in the place of } f(5)$$

$$g(22) \rightarrow 3(22) - 4 \quad \leftarrow \text{do } g(22) \text{ second}$$

$$g(22) = 62$$

Try $f(g(5))$

More Examples: $f(x) = -8x + 2$

$$g(x) = 2x^2 - 4$$

$$h(x) = \frac{5x-2}{4}$$

1. $f(h(6))$

2. $h(f(6))$

3. $g(f(-2))$

4. $f(g(-2))$

Compositions of Functions: keep in mind it is just substitution

$$f(x) = 4x$$

$$g(x) = 2x - 4$$

$$h(x) = x^2 + 1$$

$$j(x) = \frac{1}{2}x + 2$$

1. $f(g(x))$

2. $g(f(x))$

3. $g(h(x))$

4. $h(g(x))$

5. $g(j(x))$

6. $j(g(x))$

7. $g(g(x))$