

Classwork 25

1. Use the graph below of $y = \frac{1}{2}x^2 - 3x + 1$ to answer the questions.

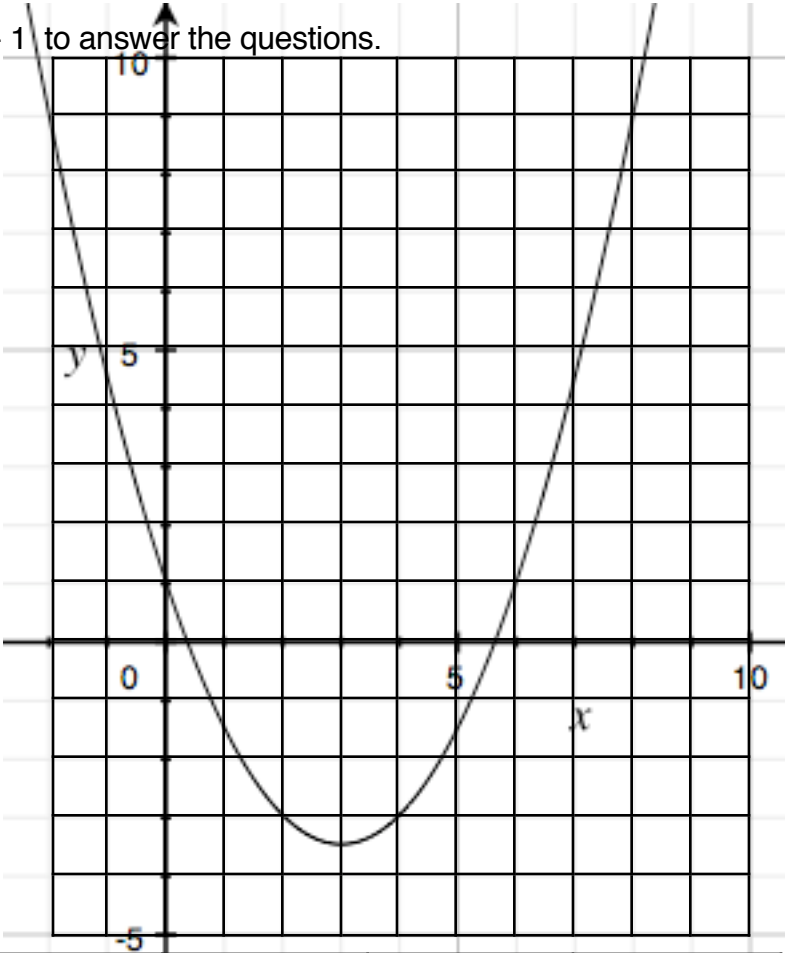
a) Use the graph to approximate the slope at $x = 6$.

b) Use the graph to approximate the slope at $x = 2$

c) Use the graph to approximate the slope at $x = 8$

d) What could we do with a **table** to zoom in to a specific point and find the slope?

e) Approximate the slope at $x = 6$ by using a series of points near $x = 6$.



First point		Second point		Δx “h”	Δy	slope
x	y	x	y			
6		6.5				
6		6.1				
6		6.01				
6		6.001				

Δx (“h”) is approaching : Δy is approaching : $\Delta x/\Delta y$ is approaching:

f) Approximate the slope near $x = 2$ by using the chart.

First point		Second point		Δx “h”	Δy	slope
x	y	x	y			
2		2.4				
2		2.1				
2						
2						

g) Finish the chart to approximate the slope near $x = 8$.

First point		Second point		Δx “h”	Δy	slope
x	y	x	y			

2. Let's say we are dealing with the graph of $f(x) = \frac{\frac{1}{3}x^4 - 5x^2 + 1}{x^2 + 2x + 4}$

a) Investigate the slope around $x = 1$ using a chart.

First point		Second point		Δx “h”	$\Delta f(x)$	slope
x	f(x)	x	f(x)			
1						

b) Investigate the slope around $x = 5$ using the chart. This time, however, Δx is given.

First point		Second point		Δx “h”	$\Delta f(x)$	slope
5				.8		
				.2		
				.05		
				.001		

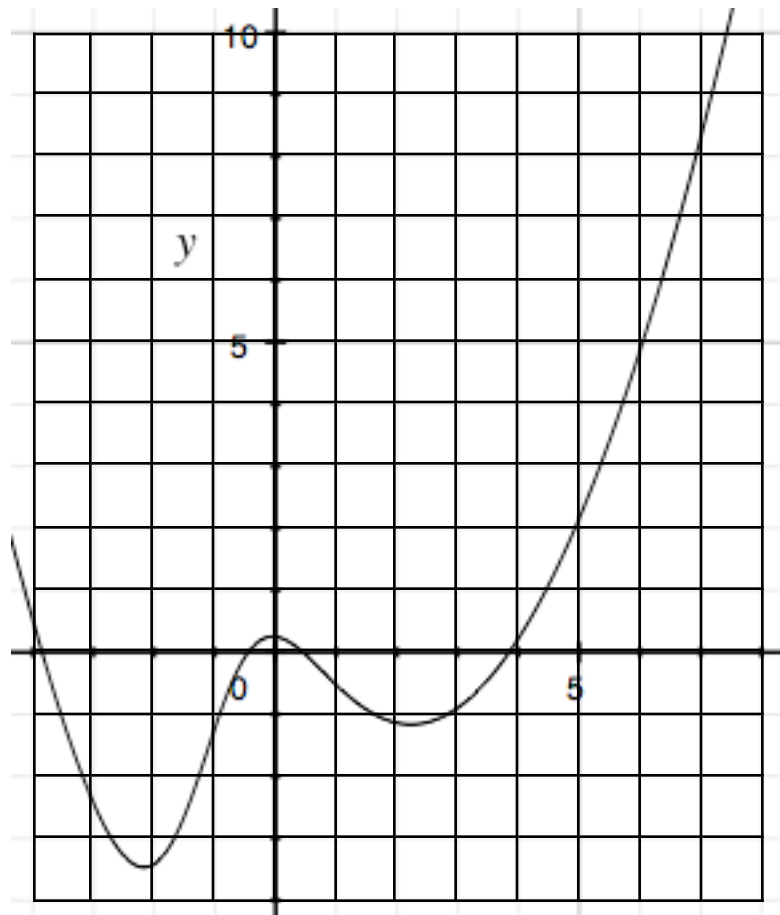
So in general, in terms of only x , h , and $f(x)$

x						
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c) Use the graph on the next page to check your answers

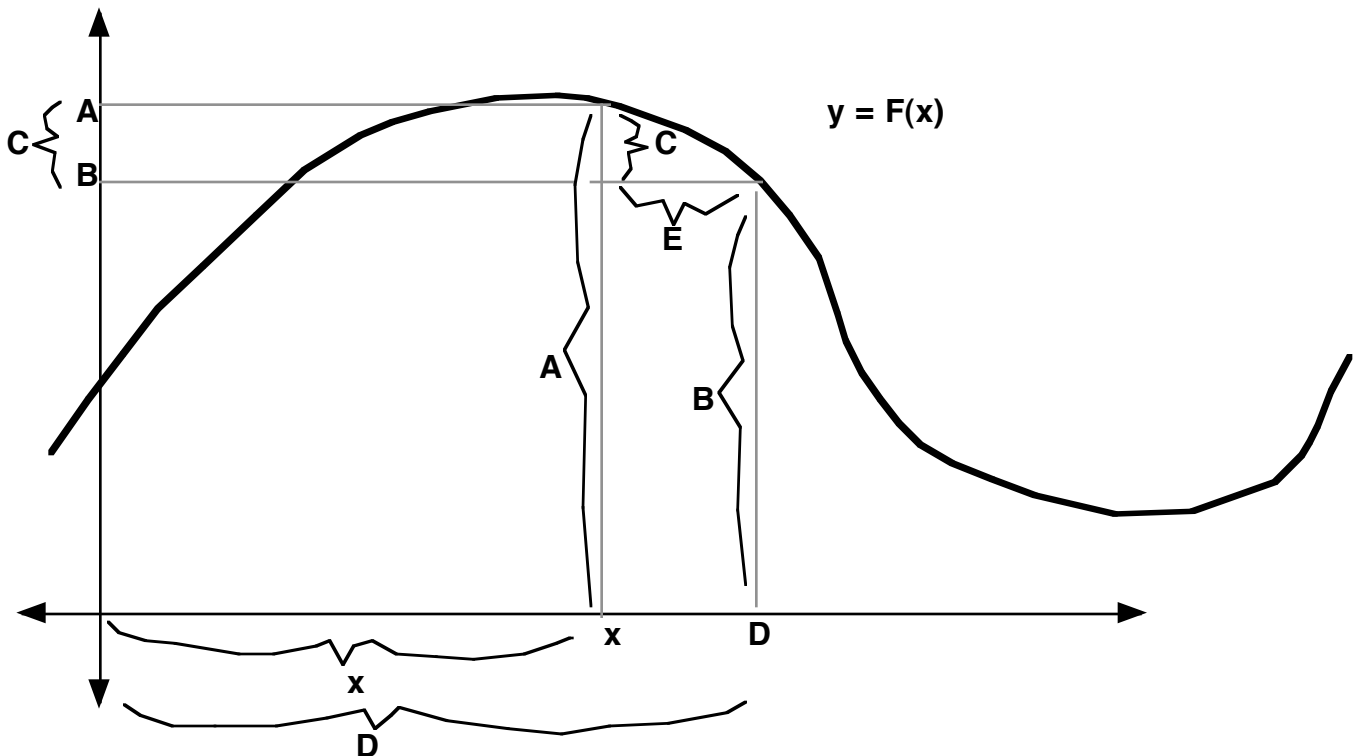
d) Write a limit to express the exact slope at a point x .

Graph for #2.



3. Label the drawing to show where each expression below goes (and what it represents).

1. $F(x)$
2. h
3. $F(x + h)$
4. $x + h$
5. $F(x + h) - F(x)$



Practice Problem

1. Use a small Δx near the point given to find the approximate slope.

a) $f(x) = 2x + 5$ $x = 8$

b) $f(x) = 2x^2 + 5x$ $x = 1$

c) $f(x) = \cos x$ $x = 8$