

[MAA 2.4-2.5] COMPOSITION – INVERSE FUNCTION

**SOLUTIONS**

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**O. Practice questions**

1. (a)  $(f \circ g)(x) = 10 - 10x$ ,  $(g \circ f)(x) = 50 - 10x$   
 (b)  $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{10-x}{2}$   
 (c)  $g^{-1}(10) = 2$   
 (d)  $(f^{-1} \circ g)(x) = \frac{10-5x}{2}$ ,  $(g \circ f)^{-1}(x) = \frac{50-x}{10}$   
 (e)  $(f \circ f)(x) = 4x - 10$   $(g \circ g)(x) = 25x$

2.

Original function	Inverse function
$f(x) = x + 5$	$f^{-1}(x) = x - 5$
$f(x) = x - 5$	$f^{-1}(x) = x + 5$
$f(x) = x + 100$	$f^{-1}(x) = x - 100$
$f(x) = 3x$	$f^{-1}(x) = x / 3$
$f(x) = x / 5$	$f^{-1}(x) = 5x$
$f(x) = x^3$	$f^{-1}(x) = \sqrt[3]{x}$
$f(x) = 3x + 100$	$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x-100}{3}$

3. (a) (i)  $f(1) = 3$  (ii)  $f^{-1}(1) = 5$   
 (b)  $x = 6$   
 (c)  $x = 4$

4. (a)  $g(3) = 1$   $f^{-1}(3) = 4$   
 (b)  $(f \circ g)(2) = -1$   
 (c)  $(g \circ g)(3) = 5$   
 (d)  $x = 1$

5.  $\frac{x}{x+5} = y \Leftrightarrow x = xy + 5y \Leftrightarrow x(1-y) = 5y \Leftrightarrow x = \frac{5y}{1-y}$

$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{5x}{1-x}$  (or  $\frac{-5x}{x-1}$ )

6. **METHOD A**

(a)  $(g \circ f)(x) = \frac{2^x}{2^x - 2}$ . Hence  $(g \circ f)(3) = \frac{2^3}{2^3 - 2} = \frac{8}{6} = \frac{4}{3}$

(b)  $\frac{x}{x-2} = y \Rightarrow y(x-2) = x \Rightarrow yx - 2y = x \Rightarrow x(y-1) = 2y \Rightarrow x = \frac{2y}{y-1}$

$$g^{-1}(x) = \frac{2x}{x-1}$$

$$\text{Hence } g^{-1}(5) = \frac{10}{(5-1)} = 2.5$$

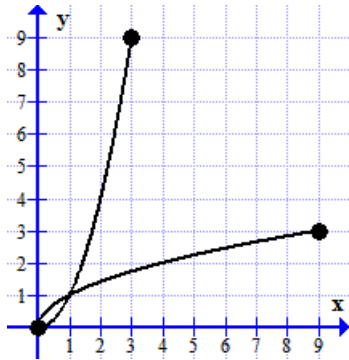
**METHOD B**

(a)  $f(3) = 8, (g \circ f)(3) = g(8) = \frac{8}{6} = \frac{4}{3}$

(b)  $\frac{x}{x-2} = 5 \Leftrightarrow x = 5x - 10 \Leftrightarrow 4x = 10 \Leftrightarrow x = \frac{5}{2}$

$$\text{Hence } g^{-1}(5) = \frac{5}{2} = 2.5$$

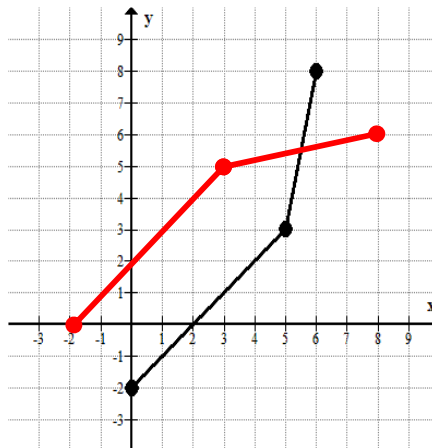
7. (a) parabola between  $x=0$  and  $x=3$   
 (b)  $0 \leq x \leq 3 \quad 0 \leq y \leq 9$   
 (c)  $y = \sqrt{x}$   
 (d)



graph symmetric about the line  $y = x$

(e)  $0 \leq x \leq 9 \quad 0 \leq y \leq 3$

8. (a) (i)  $f(0) = -2$  (ii)  $f(2) = 0$  (iii)  $f(4) = 2$   
 (b) (i)  $f^{-1}(3) = 5$  (ii)  $f^{-1}(8) = 6$  (iii)  $f^{-1}(-1) = 1$  (iv)  $f^{-1}(0) = 2$   
 (c)  $x = 2$   
 (d)  $x = 4$



9. (a)  $\frac{2x-3}{3x-2} = y \Leftrightarrow 3xy - 2y = 2x - 3 \Leftrightarrow 3xy - 2x = 2y - 3$   

$$\Leftrightarrow x(3y-2) = 2y-3 \Leftrightarrow x = \frac{2y-3}{3y-2}$$

$$\text{Hence } f^{-1}(x) = \frac{2x-3}{3x-2} = f(x)$$

$$(b) (f \circ f)(x) = \frac{2 \frac{2x-3}{3x-2} - 3}{3 \frac{2x-3}{3x-2} - 2} = \frac{2(2x-3) - 3(3x-2)}{3(2x-3) - 2(3x-2)} = \frac{-5x}{-5} = x$$

10. (a)  $f^{-1}(x) = \sqrt[3]{x}$

(b)  $f(g(x)) = x + 1 \Rightarrow [g(x)]^3 = x + 1$

so  $g(x) = \sqrt[3]{x+1}$

**OR**  $g = f^{-1} \circ (f \circ g)$ , so  $g(x) = \sqrt[3]{x+1}$

(b)  $g(f(x)) = x + 1 \Rightarrow g(x^3) = x + 1$

so  $g(x) = \sqrt[3]{x} + 1$

**OR**  $g = (g \circ f) \circ f^{-1}$ , so  $g(x) = \sqrt[3]{x} + 1$

11. (a)  $f = h \circ g^{-1}$

(b)  $g = f^{-1} \circ h$

(c)  $g = f^{-1} \circ k \circ h^{-1}$

### A. Exam style questions (SHORT)

12. (a)  $(h \circ g)(x) = \frac{5(3x-2)}{(3x-2)-4} = \frac{15x-10}{3x-6}$

(b) numerator = 0  $\Rightarrow$  M1  $x = \frac{2}{3}$  (=0.667)

13. (a)  $(f \circ g): x \mapsto 3(x+2)$  (=  $3x+6$ )

(b) **METHOD 1**

$$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x}{3} \quad g^{-1}(x) = x - 2$$

$$f^{-1}(18) = \frac{18}{3} = 6 \quad g^{-1}(18) = 18 - 2 = 16$$

$$f^{-1}(18) + g^{-1}(18) = 6 + 16 = 22$$

**METHOD 2**

$$3x = 18, x + 2 = 18$$

$$x = 6, x = 16$$

$$f^{-1}(18) + g^{-1}(18) = 6 + 16 = 22$$

14. (a)  $y = 2x + 1 \Rightarrow x = \frac{y-1}{2}, \quad f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x-1}{2}$

(b)  $g(f(-2)) = g(-3) = 3(-3)^2 - 4 = 23$

$$(c) \quad f(g(x)) = f(3x^2 - 4) = 2(3x^2 - 4) + 1 = 6x^2 - 7$$

$$15. \quad \sqrt{3 - 2x} = 5 \Leftrightarrow 3 - 2x = 25 \Leftrightarrow -2x = 22 \Leftrightarrow x = -11$$

**OR**

$$\text{Let } y = \sqrt{3 - 2x} \Rightarrow y^2 = 3 - 2x \Rightarrow x = \frac{3 - y^2}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow f^{-1}(x) = \frac{3 - x^2}{2} \Rightarrow f^{-1}(5) = \frac{3 - 25}{2} = -11$$

16. (a) **METHOD 1**

$$f(3) = \sqrt{7} \quad (g \circ f)(3) = 7$$

**METHOD 2**

$$(g \circ f)(x) = \sqrt{x+4}^2 = x+4$$

$$(g \circ f)(3) = 7$$

$$(b) \quad y = \sqrt{x+4} \Rightarrow y^2 = x+4 \Rightarrow x = y^2 - 4$$

$$f^{-1}(x) = x^2 - 4$$

$$(c) \quad x \geq 0$$

17. (a) **METHOD 1**

$$f(-2) = -12$$

$$(g \circ f)(-2) = g(-12) = -24$$

**METHOD 2**

$$(g \circ f)(x) = 2x^3 - 8$$

$$(g \circ f)(-2) = -24$$

$$(b) \quad y = x^3 - 4 \Rightarrow y + 4 = x^3 \Rightarrow x = \sqrt[3]{y+4}$$

$$f^{-1}(x) = \sqrt[3]{x+4}$$

18. (a) **METHOD 1**

$$(f \circ g)(4) = f(g(4)) = f(1) = 2$$

**METHOD 2**

$$(f \circ g)(x) = \frac{2}{x-3} \quad \text{so } (f \circ g)(4) = 2$$

$$(b) \quad \text{Let } y = \frac{1}{x-3} \Rightarrow y(x-3) = 1 \Rightarrow x-3 = \frac{1}{y} \Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{y} + 3 \left( = \frac{1+3y}{y} \right)$$

$$g^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{x} + 3 \left( = \frac{1+3x}{x} \right)$$

$$(c) \quad x \neq 0 \quad (\text{or } \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\})$$

19. (a) For  $f^{-1}(2)$ ,  $3x + 5 = 2 \Rightarrow x = -1$

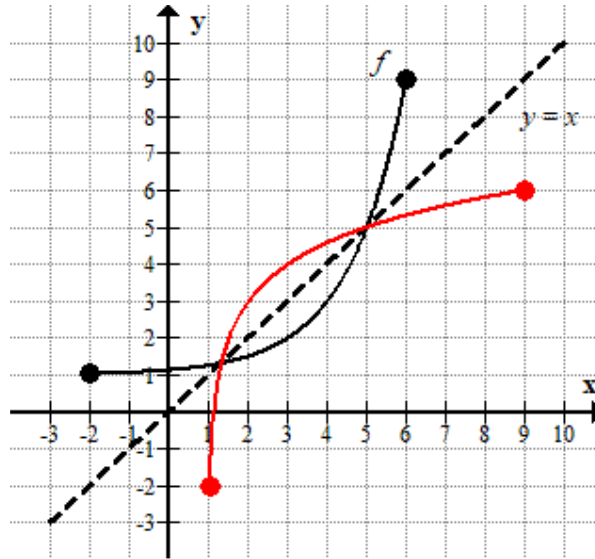
$$f^{-1}(2) = -1$$

$$(b) \quad g(f(-4)) = g(-12 + 5) = g(-7) = 2(1 + 7) = 16$$

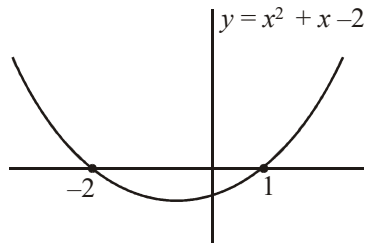
20. (a)  $(g \circ f)(x) = 2\cos x + 1$   
 (b)  $(f \circ g)(x) = 2\cos(2x + 1)$   
 (c)  $(g^{-1} \circ g)(x) = x$ ,  $(g \circ g^{-1})(x) = x$
21. (a)  $y = \frac{6-x}{2} \Rightarrow x = 6 - 2y \Rightarrow g^{-1}(x) = 6 - 2x$   
 (b)  $(f \circ g^{-1})(x) = 4[(6 - 2x) - 1] = 4(5 - 2x) = 20 - 8x$   
 $20 - 8x = 4 \Leftrightarrow 8x = 16 \Leftrightarrow x = 2$
22. (a)  $y = 2x - 3 \Rightarrow 2x = y + 3 \Rightarrow x = \frac{y+3}{2}$        $g^{-1}(x) = \frac{x+3}{2}$   
 (b) **METHOD 1**  
 $g(4) = 5 \Rightarrow f(5) = 25$   
**METHOD 2**  
 $f \circ g(x) = (2x - 3)^2$   
 $f \circ g(4) = (2 \times 4 - 3)^2 = 25$
23. (a)  $(g \circ f)(x) = 7 - 2x + 3 = 10 - 2x$   
 (b)  $g^{-1}(x) = x - 3$   
 (c) **METHOD 1**  
 $g^{-1}(5) = 2$   
 $f(2) = 3$   
**METHOD 2**  
 $(f \circ g^{-1})(x) = 7 - 2(x - 3) = 13 - 2x$   
 $(f \circ g^{-1})(5) = 3$
24. (a)  $h(x) = f(2x - 5) = 6x - 15$   
 (b)  $6x - 15 = y \Rightarrow 6x = y + 15 \Rightarrow x = \frac{y+15}{6}$   
 $h^{-1}(x) = \frac{x+15}{6}$
25. (a)  $f^{-1}(x) = x^2$   
 $(f^{-1} \circ g)(x) = f^{-1}(2^x) = 2^{2x}$   
 (b)  $2^{2x} = 16 \Rightarrow 2x = 4 \Rightarrow x = 2$
26.  $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x+5}{3}$        $g^{-1}(x) = x + 2$   
 $(f^{-1} \circ g)(x) = \frac{x+3}{3}$        $(g^{-1} \circ f)(x) = 3x - 3 \Leftrightarrow$   
 $\frac{x+3}{3} = 3x - 3 \Leftrightarrow x + 3 = 9x - 9 \Leftrightarrow x = \frac{12}{8} = \frac{3}{2}$

27. (a)  $h(x) = g(f(x)) = \frac{4}{x+2} - 1$
- (b)  $y = \frac{4}{x+2} - 1 \Rightarrow y+1 = \frac{4}{x+2} \Rightarrow x+2 = \frac{4}{y+1} \Rightarrow x = \frac{4}{y+1} - 2$
- Hence  $h^{-1}(x) = \frac{4}{x+1} - 2$  (or  $\frac{2-2x}{x+1}$ )
28.  $(f \circ g) : x \mapsto x^3 + 1$   
 $(f \circ g)^{-1} : x \mapsto (x-1)^{1/3}$
29. (a)  $g(x) = (f \circ f)(x) = \frac{\frac{x}{x+1}}{\frac{x}{x+1} + 1} = \frac{x}{2x+1}$
- (b)  $(g \circ g)(2) = g\left(\frac{2}{5}\right) = \frac{2}{9}$
30. (a)
- $$y = \frac{3x-4}{x+2}$$
- $$xy + 2y = 3x - 4$$
- simplifying  $x(y-3) = -2y-4$
- expressing  $y$  in terms of  $x$ ,  $x = \frac{2y+4}{3-y}$
- interchanging  $x$  and  $y$ ,  $y = \frac{2x+4}{3-x}$
- $$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{2x+4}{3-x}$$
- (b) Domain  $x \neq 3$
31. (a)  $f(x) = (x-3)^2 + 4 = x^2 - 6x + 9 + 4 = x^2 - 6x + 13$
- (b)  $y = (x-3)^2 + 4$   
 $y - 4 = (x-3)^2$   
 $\sqrt{y-4} = x-3$   
 $\sqrt{y-4} + 3 = x$   
 $\Rightarrow f^{-1}(x) = \sqrt{x-4} + 3$
- (c)  $x \geq 3$  and  $y \geq 4$
- (d)  $x \geq 4$  and  $y \geq 3$
32. (a)  $(f \circ f)(1) = f(f(1)) = f(3) = 2$
- (b)  $(g^{-1} \circ f)(4) = g^{-1}(f(4)) = g^{-1}(1) = 3$
- (c)  $f(g(x)) = 1$ , so  $g(x) = 4$ , so  $x = 1$
- (d)  $(g^{-1} \circ g)(2) = 2$

33.



34. (a)  $(f \circ g)(x) = \sqrt{x^2 + x - 2}$   
 $x^2 + x - 2 \geq 0$



$a = -2, b = 1$

(b) range is  $y \geq 0$

35. (a) in both cases it is the x-coordinate of the vertex.

**EITHER** by the formula  $x = -\frac{b}{2a}$  **OR** by GDC graph, minimum

(i)  $a = 2$ , (ii)  $b = 2$

(b) **EITHER by solving**  $f(x) = 7 \Leftrightarrow 3x^2 - 12x + 7 = 7$  **OR** by GDC graph x-CAL

(i)  $f^{-1}(7) = 4$ , (ii)  $g^{-1}(7) = 0$

36. **METHOD A**

We firstly find  $f^{-1}(x) = \sqrt[3]{x+1}$

(a)  $g = f^{-1} \circ (f \circ g)$ , so  $g(x) = \sqrt[3]{2x+2}$

(b)  $g = (g \circ f) \circ f^{-1}$ , so  $g(x) = 2\sqrt[3]{x+1}+1$

**METHOD B**

(a)  $f(g(x)) = x + 1 \Rightarrow [g(x)]^3 - 1 = 2x + 1$ , so  $g(x) = \sqrt[3]{2x+2}$

(b)  $g(f(x)) = 2x + 1 \Rightarrow g(x^3 - 1) = 2x + 1$

Set  $y = x^3 - 1$ , then  $x = \sqrt[3]{y+1}$ , so  $g(x) = 2\sqrt[3]{x+1}+1$

37.

$$g^{-1}(x) = \frac{x+1}{2}$$

$$f(x) = f \circ g \circ g^{-1}(x) = \frac{\frac{x+1}{2} + 1}{2}$$

$$= \frac{x+3}{4}$$

$$f(x-3) = \frac{(x-3)+3}{4}$$

$$= \frac{x}{4}$$

38. Let  $y = \frac{x^2 - 1}{x^2 + 1} \Rightarrow yx^2 + y = x^2 - 1$

$$x^2(1 - y) = 1 + y \Rightarrow x^2 = \frac{1 + y}{1 - y} \Rightarrow x = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 + y}{1 - y}}$$

Interchanging,  $f^{-1}(x) = -\sqrt{\frac{1 + x}{1 - x}}$

39. (a) By using GDC, graph, x-CAL **OR** SolveN

(i)  $f^{-1}(1) = 0$ , (ii)  $f^{-1}(0) = -0.682$ , (iii)  $f^{-1}(2) = 0.682$ .

(b) Since  $f(x) = f^{-1}(x) = x$ , we solve instead,  $f(x) = x$

**EITHER** by graph, **OR** by SolveN **OR** analytically  $x^3 + x + 1 = x \Leftrightarrow x^3 = -1$

The solution is  $x = -1$

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**B. Exam style questions (LONG)**

40. (a)  $(f \circ f)(0) = f(1) = -5$

(b)  $f(x) = 2(x - 2)^2 - 7$

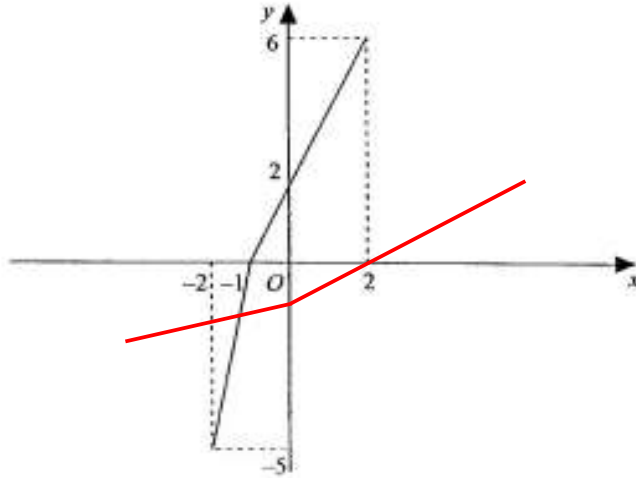
(c)  $y \geq -7$

(d)  $f^{-1}(x) = 2 - \sqrt{\frac{x+7}{2}}$

(e) Domain:  $x \geq -7$ , Range:  $y \leq 2$



41. (a) We show that  $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{3x-1}{x-3}$
- (b)  $(f \circ f)(k) = k$
- (c)  $(f \circ g)(-2) = f(-5) = \frac{-16}{-8} = 2.$
- (d)  $-5 \leq x \leq 6.$



42.

(a)  $f \circ g(x) = (ax + b + 2)^2 - 3$   
 $= a^2x^2 + abx + 2ax + abx + b^2 + 2b + 2ax + 2b + 4 - 3$   
 $= a^2x^2 + x(2ab + 4a) + (b^2 + 4b + 1)$   
 $\Rightarrow a^2x^2 + x(2ab + 4a) + (b^2 + 4b + 1) \equiv 4x^2 + 6x - \frac{3}{4}$

Equating coefficients of  $x^2$  gives  $a^2 = 4$

$\Rightarrow a = 2$ , since  $a > 0$

Equating coefficients of  $x$  gives  $2ab + 4a = 6$

$\Rightarrow 2a(b + 2) = 6$

$\Rightarrow 4(b + 2) = 6$

$\Rightarrow b = -\frac{1}{2}$

(b)  $h \circ k(x) = 5(cx^2 - x + 2) + 2 = 0$

$\Rightarrow 5cx^2 - 5x + 10 + 2 = 0$

$\Rightarrow 5cx^2 - 5x + 12 = 0$

Condition for real equal roots is:  $b^2 - 4ac = 0$

$\Rightarrow 25 - 240c = 0$

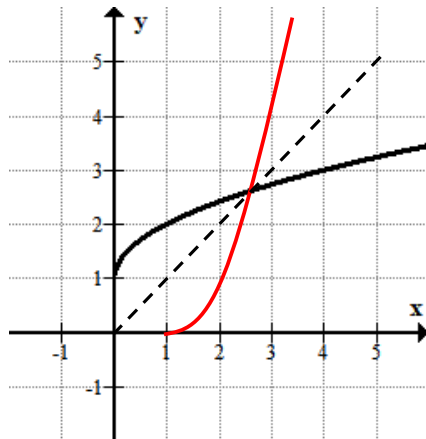
$\Rightarrow c = \frac{5}{48}$

43. (a)  $x = -1$
- (b)  $f^{-1}(x) = (x-1)^2 - 1 = x^2 - 2x$
- (c)  $h(x) = (x^2 - 2x)^2$
- (d)  $k(x) = x^4 - 2x^2$

44. (a)  $f^{-1}(x) = (x-1)^2$ .

(b)  $x \geq 1, y \geq 0$

(c)



(d) We solve  $f(x) = x$  **OR**  $f^{-1}(x) = x$

$$x = \frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2}.$$