

What are  $\frac{0}{0}$  and  $\frac{\infty}{\infty}$  ?

**Answer: M.W. = MORE WORK** The problem is NOT DONE .

The more work is often **Algebra!**

**These expressions mean More Work.**

$\frac{0}{0}$	$\frac{\infty}{\infty}$	$0 \cdot \infty$
$\infty - \infty$	$0 \cdot \infty$	$0^\infty$

You should know the following ( $\#$  denotes a non-zero number)

**When you Plug-in and get these - you are done.**

a) $\frac{0}{\#} = 0$	b) $\frac{\#}{0} = \infty$	c) $\frac{0}{\infty} = 0$
d) $\frac{\#}{\infty} = 0$	e) $\frac{\infty}{\#} = \infty$	f) $\frac{\infty}{0} = \infty$

You should think of  $\infty$  As A Number. It is a legitimate answer.

**Recall:** What is the value of the expression  $\frac{2+x}{x-1}$  when  $x = 5$ ?

*Answer:*  $\frac{2+x}{x-1} \implies \frac{2+5}{5-1} = \frac{7}{4}$       *Just plug in. Get a number  $\implies$  done.*

**Example:** What is the value of the expression  $\frac{x^2 - 3x + 2}{x^2 - 2x + 1}$  when  $x = 1$ ?

*Attempt:*  $\implies \frac{1 - 3 + 2}{1 - 2 + 1} = \frac{0}{0}$       *- Need to do MORE WORK*

**Example:** What is the value of the expression  $\frac{2x^2 + 3x}{4x + 5x^2}$  when  $x = \infty$ ?

*Attempt:*  $\frac{2x^2 + 3x}{4x + 5x^2} \implies \frac{2 \cdot \infty^2 + 3 \cdot \infty}{4 \cdot \infty + 5 \cdot \infty} = \frac{\infty}{\infty}$       *- Need to do MORE WORK*

**Example:** What is the value of the expression  $\frac{2x^2 + 3x}{4x + 5x^2}$  when  $x = 0$ ?

*Attempt:*  $\frac{2x^2 + 3x}{4x + 5x^2} \implies \frac{2 \cdot 0^2 + 3 \cdot 0}{4 \cdot 0 + 5 \cdot 0} = \frac{0}{0}$       *- Need to do MORE WORK*

**Example:** What is the value of the expression  $\frac{x^2 - 3x + 2}{x^2 - 2x + 1}$  when  $x = 1$ ?

*Technique: Factor - Cancel - Plugin - Get Answer*

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{x^2 - 3x + 2}{x^2 - 2x + 1} &= \frac{(x - 1)(x - 2)}{(x - 1)(x - 1)} && \text{Factor} \\ &= \frac{(x - 2)}{(x - 1)} && \text{Cancel} \\ &= \frac{(1 - 2)}{(1 - 1)} = \frac{-1}{0} && \text{Plug in} \\ &= -\infty && \text{Answer}\end{aligned}$$

THIS is a legitimate answer!

**Example:** Evaluate  $\frac{2x^2 + 3x}{4x + 5x^2}$  at  $x = \infty$ ?

*Technique: Divide by a Power of  $x$  - Plug In - Get Answer*

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2x^2 + 3x}{4x + 5x^2} \cdot \frac{1}{x^2} &= \frac{2 + \frac{3}{x}}{\frac{4}{x} + 5} \\ &= \frac{2 + \frac{3}{\infty}}{\frac{4}{\infty} + 5} = \frac{2}{5}\end{aligned}$$

Divide by "highest exponent"  
of  $x$  in denominator

Use  $\frac{\#}{\infty} = 0$

**Example:** Evaluate  $\frac{2x^2 + 3x}{4x + 5x^2}$  at  $x = 0$ ?

*Technique: Divide by a Power of  $x$  - Plug In - Get Answer*

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2x^2 + 3x}{4x + 5x^2} \cdot \frac{1}{x} &= \frac{2x + 3}{4 + 5x} \\ &= \frac{2 \cdot 0 + 3}{4 + 5 \cdot 0} = \frac{3}{4}\end{aligned}$$

Divide by "lowest exponent"  
of  $x$  in denominator

## Difference quotient example 1

*Example:* Evaluate  $\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$  at  $h = 0$  for  $f(x) = 2x + 3$

Note: If you plug in  $h = 0$  first, you will get  $\frac{f(x+0) - f(x)}{0} = \frac{0}{0}$

*Technique:* Use Algebra to Simplify - Cancel an  $h$  - Get Answer

$$\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \frac{(2(x+h) + 3) - (2x + 3)}{h}$$

$$= \frac{2x + 2h + 3 - 2x - 3}{h}$$

$$= \frac{2h}{h}$$

$$= 2$$

## Digression - Recall

$f(x)$  is Pronounced "f of x".

It does Not mean "f times x"

## Digression - Recall

$$f(x) = x^2 + 3x + 1$$

SAYS

USE THE EXPRESSION  $x^2 + 3x + 1$

TO CALCULATE THE VALUE of  $f(x)$

Illustration

$$f(3) = 3^2 + 5 \cdot (3) + 1 = 9 + 15 + 1 = 25$$

$$f(-2) = (-2)^2 + 5 \cdot (-2) + 1 = 4 - 10 + 1 = -5$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x+h) &= (x+h)^2 + 5 \cdot (x+h) + 1 \\ &= x^2 + 2xh + h^2 + 5x + 5h + 1 \end{aligned}$$

To Calculate  $f(3)$  - Substitute 3 into the Expression - get 25.

To Calculate  $f(-2)$  - Substitute  $-2$  into the Expression - get  $-5$ .

To Calculate  $f(x+h)$  - Substitute  $x+h$  into the Expression - get the above answer.

## Digression

The Difference Quotient is:  $\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$ .

It means - You will be GIVEN an Expression for  $f(x)$ .

Then, CALCULATE  $f(x+h)$  - and get a another expression.

Then, SUBTRACT the two expressions

Then, DIVIDE by h

## Difference quotient example 2

*Example:* Evaluate  $\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$  at  $h = 0$  for  $f(x) = x^2 + 5x + 3$

*Technique:* Use Algebra to Simplify - Cancel an  $h$  - Get Answer

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} &= \frac{((x+h)^2 + 5(x+h) + 3) - (x^2 + 5x + 3)}{h} \\ &= \frac{x^2 + 2xh + h^2 + 5x + 5h + 3 - x^2 - 5x - 3}{h} \\ &= \frac{2xh + h^2 + 5h}{h} \\ &= 2x + h + 5 \quad \text{Canceling} \\ &= 2x + 5\end{aligned}$$

NOTICE - the answer may still have "x" in it. (It does not have to be a number as in the previous example.)