



## 1-2 Composition of Functions

- I can use the definitions and important properties of arithmetic operations, including function composition, in order to combine functions.

1. Use the function  $f(x) = 4x^3 + 7x^2 - 12x$  to evaluate  $f(-2)$ . Explain what that tells you about the graph of  $f(x)$ .

$$f(-2) = 4(-2)^3 + 7(-2)^2 - 12(-2) = 20$$

The graph goes through the point  $(-2, 20)$ .

2. Suppose  $h(t) = 4 + 90t - 16t^2$  represents the height (in feet) of a baseball  $t$  seconds after it is hit. Explain what  $h(3) = 130$  tells us about the situation.

After 3 seconds, the ball is 130 feet in the air.

3. If  $f(x) = 3x^2 - 2$  and  $g(x) = x + 5$ , recall that  $[f + g](7) = f(7) + g(7) = 3(7)^2 - 2 + (7) + 5 = 157$ . Find the solutions to the problems below.

a.  $[f + g](-2) =$   
 $= f(-2) + g(-2)$   
 $= 10 + 3 = \boxed{13}$

b.  $[f + g](x) =$   
 $= f(x) + g(x)$   
 $= 3x^2 - 2 + x + 5 = \boxed{3x^2 + x + 3}$

c.  $[f - g](5) =$   
 $= f(5) - g(5)$   
 $= 73 - 10 = \boxed{63}$

d.  $[f - g](x) =$   
 $= f(x) - g(x)$   
 $= 3x^2 - 2 - (x + 5) = \boxed{3x^2 - x - 7}$

e.  $[f \cdot g](-4) =$   
 $= f(-4) \cdot g(-4)$   
 $= 46 \cdot 1 = \boxed{46}$

f.  $[f \cdot g](x) =$   
 $= f(x) \cdot g(x)$   
 $= (3x^2 - 2)(x + 5)$   
 $= \boxed{3x^3 + 15x^2 - 2x - 10}$

g.  $[f \div g](7) =$   
 $= f(7) \div g(7)$   
 $= \frac{145}{12} = \boxed{12.08\bar{3}}$

h.  $[f \div g](x) =$   
 $= \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \boxed{\frac{3x^2 - 2}{x + 5}}$

4. Use the information below to help answer the questions.

- The annual net income from lottery operation (in millions of dollars) depends on the state's adult population  $p$  (in millions) according to the function:  $I(p) = 25p - 7.5$ .
- The state's adult population  $t$  years from now is predicted by the function:  $p(t) = 5(1.02)^t$ .

a. Explain what you would have to do to find the net income from lottery operation in 5 years.

First find the population ( $p$ ) in 5 years then plug that into the  $I(p)$  function.

b. Find the net income from lottery operation in 5 years.

$$p(5) = 5(1.02)^5 \approx 5.52 \text{ million} \quad I(5.52) = 25(5.52) - 7.5 = 130.5 \text{ million}$$

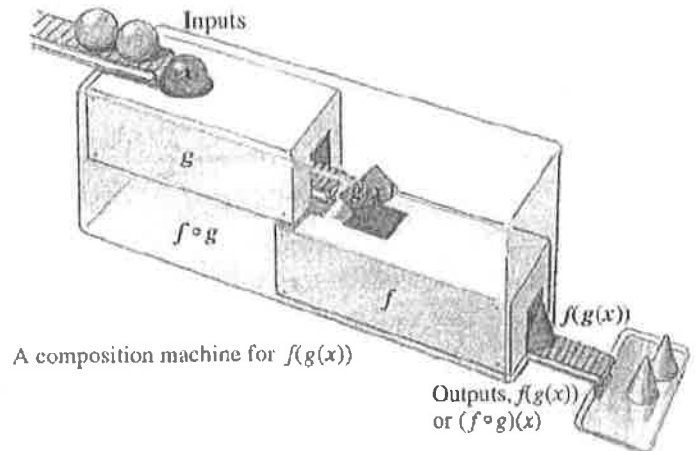
c. Write a single algebraic rule that can be used to calculate the annual net income from lottery operation  $t$  years in the future. In other words, express net income as a function of  $t$ .

$$I(t) = 25(5(1.02)^t) - 7.5$$

$P$

Your answer to 4c involved combining two functions by an operation called composition. The **composition of functions** is defined as  $f \circ g(x) = f(g(x))$  and involves using the output of one function as the input of the other. This is illustrated ~~below~~ to the right.

**Example:** If  $f(x) = 3.5x$  and  $g(x) = 5 - x$ , the rule for the composite  $f \circ g$  is  $f(g(x)) = 3.5(5 - x)$ . To find a specific solution is simple:  
 $f(g(10)) = 3.5(5 - (10)) = -17.5$



### Practice Problems

5.  $f(x) = 2x + 5$  and  $g(x) = 3x - 1$

a. Find  $f(g(3))$ .

$$= f(3(3) - 1) = f(8) = 2(8) + 5 = \boxed{21}$$

b. Find  $f(g(x))$ .

$$f(3x - 1) = 2(3x - 1) + 5 = 6x - 2 + 5 = \boxed{6x + 3}$$

c. Find  $(g \circ f)(x)$ .

$$g(2x + 5) = g(f(x)) = 3(2x + 5) - 1 = 6x + 15 - 1 = \boxed{6x + 14}$$

6.  $f(x) = x + 1$  and  $g(x) = x^2 + 2x$

a. Find  $f(g(-1))$ .

$$= f((-1)^2 + 2(-1)) = f(1 - 2) = f(-1) = -1 + 1 = \boxed{0}$$

b. Find  $f(g(x))$ .

$$f(x^2 + 2x) = (x^2 + 2x) + 1 = \boxed{x^2 + 2x + 1}$$

c. Find  $(g \circ f)(x)$ .

$$g(x+1) = (x+1)^2 + 2(x+1) = x^2 + 2x + 1 + 2x + 2 = \boxed{x^2 + 4x + 3}$$

7.  $f(x) = x^2 + 4x + 3$  and  $g(x) = 2x + 1$

a. Find  $f(g(6))$ .

$$= f(2(6) + 1) = f(13) = (13)^2 + 4(13) + 3 = \boxed{224}$$

b. Find  $f(g(x))$ .

$$f(2x+1) = (2x+1)^2 + 4(2x+1) + 3 = 4x^2 + 4x + 1 + 8x + 4 + 3 = \boxed{4x^2 + 12x + 8}$$

c. Find  $(g \circ f)(x)$ .

$$g(x^2 + 4x + 3) = 2(x^2 + 4x + 3) + 1 = 2x^2 + 8x + 6 + 1 = \boxed{2x^2 + 8x + 7}$$

8.  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$  and  $g(x) = 2x + 3$

a. Find  $f(g(-4))$ .

$$= f(2(-4) + 3) = f(-5) = \frac{1}{-5} = \boxed{-\frac{1}{5}}$$

b. Find  $f(g(x))$ .

$$f(2x+3) = \boxed{\frac{1}{2x+3}}$$

c. Find  $(g \circ f)(x)$ .

$$g\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = 2\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) + 3 = \boxed{\frac{2}{x} + 3}$$

9.  $s(t) = t^2$  and  $r(t) = \sqrt{t}$ ,

a. Find  $s(r(9))$ .

$$= s(\sqrt{9}) = s(3) = (3)^2 = \boxed{9}$$

b. Find  $s(r(\frac{t}{9}))$ .

$$s(\sqrt{t}) = (\sqrt{t})^2 = \boxed{t}$$

c. Find  $(r \circ s)(\frac{t}{9})$ .

$$r(t^2) = \sqrt{t^2} = \boxed{t}$$

10. Compare all of the Part b and c answers to Questions 5-9. How is 9 different from the rest?

Parts b + c have the same result.

a. What vocabulary word from last year describes the relationship between  $s(t)$  and  $r(t)$ ?

They are inverses of each other.

b. Find another pair of functions that have the same relationship.

Answers vary!  
 $t(x) = x + 1$  +  $b(x) = x - 1$

11. Find two functions  $h(x)$  and  $k(x)$  that compose to give  $h(k(x)) = \sqrt{3x-5}$ , where  $h(x) \neq x$  and

$k(x) \neq x$ .  $h(x) = \sqrt{x}$

$h(3x-5) = \sqrt{3x-5}$  ✓

$k(x) = 3x-5$

12. Find two functions  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  that compose to give  $f(g(x)) = \frac{3}{x-4}$ , where  $f(x) \neq x$  and

$g(x) \neq x$ .

$f(x) = \frac{3}{x}$

$f(x-4) = \frac{3}{x-4}$  ✓

$g(x) = x-4$