Calculus Readiness Test Preparation

University of San Francisco
Department of Mathematics and Statistics

The Calculus Readiness Test is used to place you into the appropriate calculus course at USF. This is a 30-minute online test, with 24 multiple-choice questions. No calculators are permitted. You may only take this test once; all subsequent scores will not be accepted. Below is a list of topics on the exam, followed by a practice test to help you prepare.

Topics covered

- 1. Simplification of algebraic expressions
- 2. Solving equations and inequalities
- 3. Working with functions: Graphing functions, composition of functions, the inverse of a function, etc.
- 4. Familiar families of functions: Lines, parabolas, exponential functions, logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions and basic trigonometric identities.
- 5. Measurements: area, perimeter, volume, and other quantities

Sample Test

1. $(8)^{1/3}(81)^{-1/4} =$

(A) 6 (B) $\frac{3}{2}$ (C) $(648)^{-1/12}$

 $(D)\frac{2}{3}$

2. If you know that 2^{12} is approximately 4,000, then which of the following is the best approximation for 2^{24} ?

(A)8,000

(B) 16,000

 $(\mathrm{C})\,4\times10^6$

(D) 1.6×10^7

3. If $\log_4(x+3) = 2$, then x =

(A)-1

(B) 13

(C) 5

(D)3

4. The line y = x + 1 and the parabola $y = 2x^2$ intersect when x = 1 and when x = 1

 $(A)^{\frac{1}{2}}$

(B) $-\frac{1}{2}$

(C)2

(D) - 2

5. The inequality $|x-3| \le 4$ is equivalent to

 $(A)x \leq 7$

(B) $x \le -1$

(C) $-1 \le x \le 7$

(D) $-7 \le x \le -7$

6. Which of the following is a solution of $\log_2(x+1) - \log_2(x-2) = 2$?

(A)x = 0

(B) x = 1

(C) x = 2

(D) x = 3

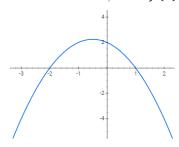
7. If f(x) is a function whose graph is shown below, then f(x) > 0 whenever



(B)
$$x > 0$$

(C)
$$-2 < x < 1$$

(D)
$$x < -2 \text{ or } x > 1$$



8. Which of the following is an equation of a line that passes through the points (1, -3) and (3, 2)?

(A)
$$y - 2 = \frac{2}{5}(x - 3)$$

(B)
$$y + 2 = \frac{5}{2}(x + 3)$$

(C)
$$y - 3 = \frac{2}{5}(x + 1)$$

(D)
$$y + 3 = \frac{5}{2}(x - 1)$$

9. If $f(x) = \frac{x^2-5}{x+5}$, then f(a+2) =

$$(A)a-3$$

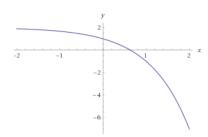
(B)
$$\frac{a^2 + 4a - 1}{a + 7}$$
 (C) $\frac{a^2 - 1}{a + 7}$

$$(C)\frac{a^2-1}{a+7}$$

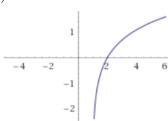
$$(D) - \frac{1}{7}$$

10. Which of the graphs below could be a sketch of $f(x) = -3^x + 2$?

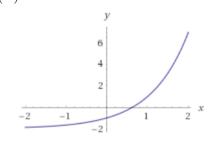




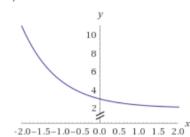
(C)



(B)

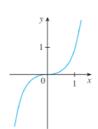


(D)

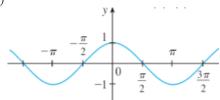


11. A function f is called even if f(-x) = f(x). Which of the functions shown below is even?

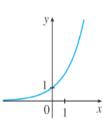
(A)



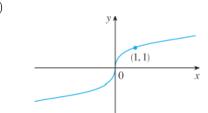
(C)



(B)



(D)



12. The line y = 3x - 5 is perpendicular to

$$(A) y = -3x - 5$$

$$(B) x + 3y = 6$$

(C)
$$4y - 12x = 5$$

$$(D)y = 3x + 2$$

13. If $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x-1}$, then the inverse function $f^{-1}(x) =$

$$(A)(x-1)^3$$

$$(\mathrm{B})\,x^3+1$$

(C)
$$(x-1)^{-1/3}$$

(D)
$$x^3 - 1$$

14. If $f(x) = x^2$ and g(x) = 3x + 1, then the composition $(f \circ g)(x) =$

$$(A) 3x^2 + 1$$

(B)
$$3x^3 + x^2$$

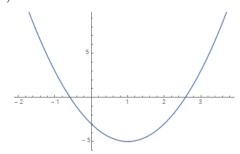
(C)
$$9x^2 + 1$$

$$(D)9x^2 + 6x + 1$$

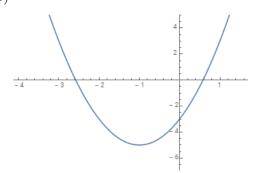
- 15. A population starts with 100 individuals and doubles in size every 5 years. How many individuals will there be in 25 years?
 - (A)3200
 - (B)500
 - (C)2500
 - $(\mathrm{D})\,100^5$

16. Which of the following graphs represents the graph of $y = 2x^2 - 4x - 3$?

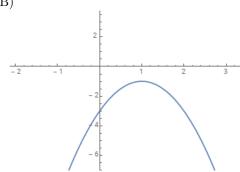
(A)



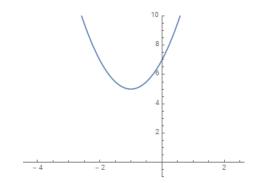
(C)



(B)



(D)



- 17. If $f(x) = \cos 3x$, then $f(\pi/6) =$

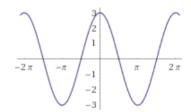
 - (A) 0 (B) $\frac{1}{2}$ (C) $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ (D) 1
- 18. $\sec\left(-\frac{\pi}{3}\right) =$

 - (A) $\frac{1}{2}$ (B) 2 (C) $-\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$
 - (D) 2
- 19. For which value of x is $\tan x$ not defined?
 - $(A)^{\pi}/_4$

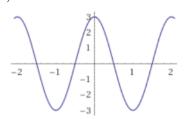
 - (B) π (C) $-\pi/2$ (D) $\pi/3$

20. Which of the following is a graph of $y = 3\cos(\pi x)$?

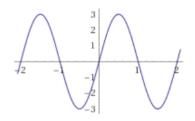
(A)



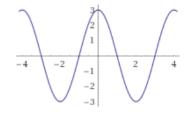
(C)



(B)



(D)



- 21. $\sin^2 \theta \cot \theta \sec \theta =$
 - $(A)\sin\theta$
 - (B) $\cos \theta$
 - (C) $\sin \theta \cot \theta$
 - (D) $\sin \theta \cot^2 \theta$
- 22. $\cos^2 \theta 1 =$
 - $(A)\sin\theta$
 - (B) $\cos 2\theta$
 - (C) $\sin^2 \theta$
 - (D) $\sin^2 \theta$
- $23. \tan^{-1} 1 =$

 - $^{(A)}\pi/_{4}$ $^{(B)}\pi/_{2}$
 - (C)0
 - $(D)\pi$
- 24. If the sides of a cube increase by a factor of 2, then the volume of the cube increases by a factor of
 - (A)2
 - (B)6
 - (C)8
 - (D) Not enough information to tell.

Answers

- 1. D
- 2. D
- 3. B
- 4. B
- 5. C
- 6. D
- 7. C
- 8. D
- 9. B
- 10. A
- 11. C
- 12. B
- 13. B
- 14. D
- 15. A
- 16. A 17. A
- 18. B
- 19. C
- 20. C
- 21. A
- 22. D
- 23. A
- 24. C