

**Exercise 8E**

**1 a** Let  $y = x^4 + x^{-1}$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} &= 4x^3 + (-1)x^{-2} \\ &= 4x^3 - x^{-2}\end{aligned}$$

**b** Let  $y = 2x^5 + 3x^{-2}$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} &= 5 \times 2x^{5-1} + (-2) \times 3x^{-2-1} \\ &= 10x^4 - 6x^{-3}\end{aligned}$$

**c** Let  $y = 6x^{\frac{3}{2}} + 2x^{-\frac{1}{2}} + 4$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{3}{2} \times 6x^{\frac{3}{2}-1} + \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \times 2x^{-\frac{1}{2}-1} + 0 \\ &= 9x^{\frac{1}{2}} - x^{-\frac{3}{2}}\end{aligned}$$

**2 a**  $f(x) = x^3 - 3x + 2$

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 - 3$$

At  $(-1, 4)$ ,  $x = -1$

$$f'(-1) = 3(-1)^2 - 3 = 0$$

The gradient at  $(-1, 4)$  is 0.

**b**  $f(x) = 3x^2 + 2x^{-1}$

$$f'(x) = 6x + 2(-1)x^{-2} = 6x - 2x^{-2}$$

At  $(2, 13)$ ,  $x = 2$

$$f'(2) = 6(2) - 2(2)^{-2} = 12 - \frac{2}{4} = 11\frac{1}{2}$$

The gradient at  $(2, 13)$  is  $11\frac{1}{2}$ .

**3 a**  $f(x) = x^2 - 5x$

$$f'(x) = 2x - 5$$

When gradient is zero,  $f'(x) = 0$ .

$$2x - 5 = 0$$

$$x = 2.5$$

When  $x = 2.5$ ,  $y = f(2.5)$

$$\begin{aligned}&= (2.5)^2 - 5(2.5) \\ &= -6.25\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the gradient is zero at  $(2.5, -6.25)$ .

**b**  $f(x) = x^3 - 9x^2 + 24x - 20$

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 - 18x + 24$$

When gradient is zero,  $f'(x) = 0$ .

$$3x^2 - 18x + 24 = 0$$

$$3(x^2 - 6x + 8) = 0$$

$$3(x - 4)(x - 2) = 0$$

$$x = 4 \text{ or } x = 2$$

**3 b** When  $x = 4$ ,  $y = f(4)$

$$\begin{aligned}&= 4^3 - 9 \times 4^2 + 24 \times 4 - 20 \\ &= -4\end{aligned}$$

When  $x = 2$ ,  $y = f(2)$

$$\begin{aligned}&= 2^3 - 9 \times 2^2 + 24 \times 2 - 20 \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the gradient is zero at  $(4, -4)$  and  $(2, 0)$ .

**c**  $f(x) = x^{\frac{3}{2}} - 6x + 1$

$$\frac{3}{2}x^{\frac{1}{2}} - 6$$

When gradient is zero,  $f'(x) = 0$ .

$$\frac{3}{2}x^{\frac{1}{2}} - 6 = 0$$

$$x^{\frac{1}{2}} = 4$$

$$x = 16$$

When  $x = 16$ ,  $y = f(16)$

$$\begin{aligned}&= 16^{\frac{3}{2}} - 6 \times 16 + 1 \\ &= -31\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the gradient is zero at  $(16, -31)$ .

**d**  $f(x) = x^{-1} + 4x$

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

When gradient is zero,  $f'(x) = 0$ .

$$-x^{-2} + 4 = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{x^2} = 4$$

$$x = \pm \frac{1}{2}$$

When  $x = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $y = f\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$

$$\begin{aligned}&= \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{-1} + 4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \\ &= 2 + 2 = 4\end{aligned}$$

When  $x = -\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $y = f\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)$

$$\begin{aligned}&= \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{-1} + 4\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) \\ &= -2 - 2 = -4\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the gradient is zero at  $(\frac{1}{2}, 4)$  and  $(-\frac{1}{2}, -4)$ .

**4 a** Let  $y = 2\sqrt{x}$

$$= 2x^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 2\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$= x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$$

**b** Let  $y = \frac{3}{x^2}$

$$= 3x^{-2}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 3(-2)x^{-3}$$

$$= -6x^{-3}$$

$$= -\frac{6}{x^3}$$

**c** Let  $y = \frac{1}{3x^3}$

$$= \frac{1}{3}x^{-3}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{3}(-3)x^{-4}$$

$$= -x^{-4}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{x^4}$$

**d** Let  $y = \frac{1}{3}x^3(x-2)$

$$= \frac{1}{3}x^4 - \frac{2}{3}x^3$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{4}{3}x^3 - \frac{2}{3} \times 3x^2$$

$$= \frac{4}{3}x^3 - 2x^2$$

**e** Let  $y = \frac{2}{x^3} + \sqrt{x}$

$$= 2x^{-3} + x^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -6x^{-4} + \frac{1}{2}x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$= -\frac{6}{x^4} + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

**f** Let  $y = \sqrt[3]{x} + \frac{1}{2x}$

$$= x^{\frac{1}{3}} + \frac{1}{2}x^{-1}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{3}x^{-\frac{2}{3}} - \frac{1}{2}x^{-2}$$

**g** Let  $y = \frac{2x+3}{x}$

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

$$= 2 + 3x^{-1}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 0 - 3x^{-2}$$

$$= -\frac{3}{x^2}$$

**h** Let  $y = \frac{3x^2 - 6}{x}$

$$= \frac{3x^2}{x} - \frac{6}{x}$$

$$= 3x - 6x^{-1}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 3 + 6x^{-2}$$

$$= 3 + \frac{6}{x^2}$$

**i** Let  $y = \frac{2x^3 + 3x}{\sqrt{x}}$

$$= \frac{2x^3}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}} + \frac{3x}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

$$= 2x^{\frac{5}{2}} + 3x^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 5x^{\frac{3}{2}} + \frac{3}{2}x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

**j** Let  $y = x(x^2 - x + 2)$

$$= x^3 - x^2 + 2x$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2 - 2x + 2$$

**k** Let  $y = 3x^2(x^2 + 2x)$

$$= 3x^4 + 6x^3$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 12x^3 + 18x^2$$

**4 I** Let  $y = (3x - 2)\left(4x + \frac{1}{x}\right)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 12x^2 - 8x + 3 - \frac{2}{x} \\ &= 12x^2 - 8x + 3 - 2x^{-1} \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= 24x - 8 + 2x^{-2} \\ &= 24x - 8 + \frac{2}{x^2} \end{aligned}$$

**5 a**  $f(x) = x(x + 1)$   
 $= x^2 + x$   
 $f'(x) = 2x + 1$   
Gradient at  $(0, 0) = f'(0) = 1$

**b**  $f(x) = \frac{2x - 6}{x^2}$   
 $= \frac{2x}{x^2} - \frac{6}{x^2}$   
 $= 2x^{-1} - 6x^{-2}$   
 $f'(x) = -2x^{-2} + 12x^{-3}$   
 $= -\frac{2}{x^2} + \frac{12}{x^3}$

Gradient at  $(3, 0) = f'(3) = -\frac{2}{3^2} + \frac{12}{3^3}$   
 $= -\frac{2}{9} + \frac{12}{27}$   
 $= \frac{2}{9}$

**c**  $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}$   
 $= x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$   
 $f'(x) = -\frac{1}{2}x^{-\frac{3}{2}}$

Gradient at  $(\frac{1}{4}, 2) = f'\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) = -\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^{-\frac{3}{2}}$   
 $= -\frac{1}{2} \times 2^3$   
 $= -4$

**5 d**  $f(x) = 3x - \frac{4}{x^2}$   
 $= 3x - 4x^{-2}$   
 $f'(x) = 3 + 8x^{-3}$   
Gradient at  $(2, 5) = f'(2) = 3 + 8(2)^{-3}$   
 $= 3 + \frac{8}{8} = 4$

**6**  $f(x) = \frac{12}{p\sqrt{x}} + x$   
 $= \frac{12}{p}x^{-\frac{1}{2}} + x$   
 $f'(x) = -\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{12}{p}x^{-\frac{1}{2}-1} + 1$   
 $= -\frac{6}{p}x^{-\frac{3}{2}} + 1$   
 $f'(2) = -\frac{6}{p}(2)^{-\frac{3}{2}} + 1$   
 $= -\frac{6}{2p\sqrt{2}} + 1$   
 $-\frac{6}{2p\sqrt{2}} + 1 = 3$   
 $-\frac{6}{2p\sqrt{2}} = 2$   
 $p = -\frac{3}{2\sqrt{2}}$   
 $= -\frac{3}{2\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}}$   
 $= -\frac{3}{4}\sqrt{2}$