

Undo Function Check

Use composition to test inverse pairs.

HIGH SCHOOL • HSF-BF.B.4b

CCSS.Math.Content.HSF-BF.B.4b "(+) Verify by composition that one function is the inverse of another."

NAME _____

DATE _____

THE BIG IDEA

Two functions are inverses if each function undoes the other. Substitute $g(x)$ into $f(x)$, then substitute $f(x)$ into $g(x)$. If both compositions simplify to x on the stated domains, the functions are inverses.

WORKED EXAMPLE

Verify whether $f(x) = 7x + 2$ and $g(x) = (x - 2)/7$ are inverses.

1. $f(g(x)) = 7((x - 2)/7) + 2$
2. $f(g(x)) = x - 2 + 2 = x$
3. $g(f(x)) = ((7x + 2) - 2)/7 = x$

Answer: $f(g(x)) = x$ and $g(f(x)) = x$, so f and g are inverses.

PRACTICE 6 problems

- 1** Verify whether $f(x) = 4x + 1$ and $g(x) = (x - 1)/4$ are inverses by finding both compositions.

ANSWER _____

- 2** Verify whether $f(x) = (x + 6)/5$ and $g(x) = 5x - 6$ are inverses by finding both compositions.

ANSWER _____

- 3** Verify whether $f(x) = x^3$ and $g(x) = \sqrt[3]{x}$ are inverses by finding both compositions.

ANSWER _____

- 4** Verify whether $f(x) = 8 - x$ and $g(x) = 8 - x$ are inverses by finding both compositions.

ANSWER _____

- 5** For $x \neq 0$, verify whether $f(x) = 9/x$ and $g(x) = 9/x$ are inverses by finding both compositions.

ANSWER _____

- 6** Verify whether $f(x) = 6x - 4$ and $g(x) = (x + 5)/6$ are inverses by finding both compositions.

ANSWER _____

APPLY IT Show your work

- 1** A music festival app gives a volunteer 12 points for each hour worked, plus 15 welcome points. It uses $f(h) = 12h + 15$ to convert hours h to points. The app uses $g(p) = (p - 15)/12$ to convert points p back to hours. Verify by composition that the rules are inverses.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

- 2** An esports club uses $f(m) = 8m - 11$ to turn a match rating m into a displayed score. Its reverse rule is $g(s) = (s + 11)/8$. Verify by composition that the rules are inverses.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

CHALLENGE One step up

CHALLENGE

Let $a \neq 0$. Function f is defined by $f(x) = ax + 9$, and function g is defined by $g(x) = (x - 9)/a$. Verify by composition that f and g are inverses. Explain why the condition $a \neq 0$ is needed.

PART 1 · PRACTICE

#	PROBLEM	ANSWER
1	Verify whether $f(x) = 4x + 1$ and $g(x) = (x - 1)/4$ are inverses by finding both compositions.	$f(g(x)) = x$ and $g(f(x)) = x$, so f and g are inverses.
2	Verify whether $f(x) = (x + 6)/5$ and $g(x) = 5x - 6$ are inverses by finding both compositions.	$f(g(x)) = x$ and $g(f(x)) = x$, so f and g are inverses.
3	Verify whether $f(x) = x^3$ and $g(x) = \text{cuberoot}(x)$ are inverses by finding both compositions.	$f(g(x)) = x$ and $g(f(x)) = x$, so f and g are inverses.
4	Verify whether $f(x) = 8 - x$ and $g(x) = 8 - x$ are inverses by finding both compositions.	$f(g(x)) = x$ and $g(f(x)) = x$, so f and g are inverses.
5	For $x \neq 0$, verify whether $f(x) = 9/x$ and $g(x) = 9/x$ are inverses by finding both compositions.	$f(g(x)) = x$ and $g(f(x)) = x$ for $x \neq 0$, so f and g are inverses on this domain.
6	Verify whether $f(x) = 6x - 4$ and $g(x) = (x + 5)/6$ are inverses by finding both compositions.	$f(g(x)) = x + 1$ and $g(f(x)) = x + 1/6$, so f and g are not inverses.

PART 2 · APPLY IT

- $f(g(x)) = x$ and $g(f(x)) = x$, so the rules are inverses.** Substitute $(x - 15)/12$ into f to get $12((x - 15)/12) + 15 = x$.
Substitute $12x + 15$ into g to get $((12x + 15) - 15)/12 = x$.
- $f(g(x)) = x$ and $g(f(x)) = x$, so the rules are inverses.** Substitute $(x + 11)/8$ into f to get $8((x + 11)/8) - 11 = x$.
Substitute $8x - 11$ into g to get $((8x - 11) + 11)/8 = x$.

CHALLENGE

$f(g(x)) = a((x - 9)/a) + 9 = x$, and $g(f(x)) = ((ax + 9) - 9)/a = x$. The condition $a \neq 0$ is needed because division by zero is undefined.

Accept equivalent algebraic forms of either composition, as long as both simplify to x for inverse pairs. For the rational pair, students should state or use the restriction $x \neq 0$.