

Two Lies and a Truth Activity: Topic 1.6 Name _____

For each of the following limit problems, three solutions are provided. Two of the solutions show an incorrect answer where one solution shows a correct answer. Circle **True** if the solution is correct, or true, or circle **Lie** if the solution is incorrect, and thus a “lie,” circle where error occurs.

Problem 1 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^3 - 1}{x^2 + 7x - 8}$ $= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{(x-1)(x-1)(x-1)}{(x-1)(x+8)}$ $= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{(x-1)^2}{x+8}$ $= -\frac{0^2}{9}$ $= 0$ True Lie	$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^3 - 1}{x^2 + 7x - 8}$ $= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{(x-1)(x^2 + x + 1)}{(x-1)(x+8)}$ $= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2 + x + 1}{x+8}$ $= \frac{3}{9} \text{ or } \frac{1}{3}$ True Lie	$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^3 - 1}{x^2 + 7x - 8}$ $= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{(x-1)(x^2 - x + 1)}{(x-1)(x+8)}$ $= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^2 - x + 1}{x+8}$ $= \frac{1}{9}$ True Lie
Problem 2 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + 9} - 3}{x^2}$ $= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + 9} - 3}{x^2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + 9} + 3}{\sqrt{x^2 + 9} + 3}$ $= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 + 9 + 9}{x^2 (\sqrt{x^2 + 9} - 3)}$ $= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 + 18}{x^2 (\sqrt{x^2 + 9} - 3)}$ $= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{18}{\sqrt{x^2 + 9} - 3}$ $= \infty$ True Lie	$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + 9} - 3}{x^2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + 9} + 3}{\sqrt{x^2 + 9} + 3}$ $= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 + 9 - 9}{x^2 (\sqrt{x^2 + 9} + 3)}$ $= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 9} + 3}$ $= \frac{1}{\sqrt{12}}$ True Lie	$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + 9} - 3}{x^2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + 9} + 3}{\sqrt{x^2 + 9} + 3}$ $= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 + 9 - 9}{x^2 (\sqrt{x^2 + 9} + 3)}$ $= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 9} + 3}$ $= \frac{1}{6}$ True Lie

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Problem 3 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{x+4} - \frac{1}{4}}{x}$	$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{4 \cdot \frac{1}{x+4} - \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{x+4}{x}}{x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{4}{x+4} - \frac{x+4}{4(x+4)}}{x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{-x+4}{4(x+4)}}{x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-x+4}{4(x+4)} \cdot \frac{1}{x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-x+4}{4(x+4)} \cdot \frac{1}{x} \\ &= \text{dne} \end{aligned}$	$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{4}{x+4} - \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{x+4}{x}}{x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{4}{x+4} - \frac{x+4}{4(x+4)}}{x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{-x}{4(x+4)}}{x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-x}{4(x+4)} \cdot \frac{1}{x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{4(x+4)} \cdot \frac{1}{1} \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \end{aligned}$	$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{x+4} - \frac{1}{4}}{x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{4}{x+4} - \frac{x+4}{4(x+4)}}{x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{-x}{4(x+4)}}{x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-x}{4(x+4)} \cdot \frac{1}{x} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-1}{4(x+4)} \cdot \frac{1}{1} \\ &= -\frac{1}{16} \end{aligned}$	
	True Lie	True Lie	True Lie	
Problem 4 $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(3+h)^2 - 9}{h}$	$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{9 + 6h + h^2 - 9}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{6h + h^2}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h(6+h)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (6+h) \\ &= 6 \end{aligned}$	$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{9 + h^2 - 9}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h^2}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{h} \\ &= \text{dne} \end{aligned}$	$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{9 + 6h + h^2 - 9}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{6h + h^2}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (6h + h) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$	
	True Lie	True Lie	True Lie	