

6. [14 points] Let  $p$  be a function such that  $p''(x)$  is defined for all real numbers  $x$ . A table of some values of  $p'(x)$  is given below.

$x$	-9	-5	-1	3	7	11
$p'(x)$	-3	0	-4	0	2	1

Assume that  $p'$  is either always strictly decreasing or always strictly increasing between consecutive values of  $x$  shown in the table.

For each of the questions below, circle ALL of the appropriate choices. If none of the choices are correct, circle NONE OF THESE.

- a. [2 points] At which, if any, of the following values of  $x$  does  $p(x)$  definitely have a local maximum in the interval  $-9 < x < 11$ ?

-5                      -1                      3                      7                      NONE OF THESE

*Solution:* The only critical points of  $p(x)$  in this interval are at  $x = -5$  and  $x = 3$ . We now classify these critical points.  $p(x)$  does not have a local extremum at  $x = -5$  since  $p'(x)$  is negative both immediately before and after  $x = -5$ .  $p(x)$  has a local minimum at  $x = 3$  since the sign of  $p'(x)$  changes from negative to positive there.

- b. [2 points] At which, if any, of the following values of  $x$  does  $p(x)$  definitely attain its global minimum on the interval  $-9 \leq x \leq 11$ ?

-9                      -5                      -1                      3                      7                      11                      NONE OF THESE

*Solution:*  $p(x)$  is decreasing for  $-9 \leq x \leq 3$  and increasing for  $3 \leq x \leq 11$ .

- c. [2 points] At which, if any, of the following values of  $x$  does  $p'(x)$  (the derivative of  $p(x)$ ) definitely attain its global maximum on the interval  $-9 \leq x \leq 11$ ?

-9                      -5                      -1                      3                      7                      11                      NONE OF THESE

*Solution:* Since  $p'(x)$  is always increasing or decreasing between points in the table, the global max must occur at one of the values of  $x$  in the table. Realizing this, we need to choose the value of  $x$  in the table that gives the largest value of  $p'(x)$ , which is  $x = 7$ .

- d. [3 points] On which of the following intervals is  $p(x)$  definitely always concave up?

$-9 < x < -5$      $-5 < x < -1$      $-1 < x < 3$      $3 < x < 7$      $7 < x < 11$     NONE OF THESE

*Solution:* The function  $p(x)$  is concave up whenever the derivative  $p'(x)$  is increasing.

- e. [3 points] At which, if any, of the following values of  $x$  does  $p(x)$  definitely have an inflection point in the interval  $-9 < x < 11$ ?

-5                      -1                      3                      7                      NONE OF THESE

*Solution:* We are looking for places where  $p'(x)$  changes from increasing to decreasing or vice versa.

- f. [2 points] Which, if any, of the following must be true?

$p''(7) \geq p''(-3)$      $p''(7) = p''(-3)$      $p''(7) \leq p''(-3)$     NONE OF THESE

*Solution:* The function  $p'(x)$  is increasing between 3 and 7 and decreasing between 7 and 11 so  $p''(7) = 0$ . The function  $p'(x)$  is decreasing between -5 and -1, so  $p''(-3) \leq 0$ .