5. [15 points] Suppose g(x) is a differentiable function defined for all real numbers x. The <u>derivative</u> and <u>second derivative</u> of g(x) are given by

$$g'(x) = x^2(x+4)(x+2)^{1/3}$$
 and  $g''(x) = \frac{2x(x+3)(5x+8)}{3(x+2)^{2/3}}.$ 

**a**. [2 points] Find the x-coordinates of all critical points of g(x). If there are none, write "NONE".

**Answer:** Critical point(s) of 
$$g(x)$$
 at  $x = -4, -2, 0$ 

- **b.** [2 points] Find the x-coordinates of all critical points of g'(x). If there are none, write "NONE".
  - **Answer:** Critical point(s) of g'(x) at  $x = \_$
- c. [6 points] Find the x-coordinates of all local maxima and local minima of g(x). If there are none of a particular type, write "NONE". Use calculus to find and justify your answers, and be sure to show enough evidence to demonstrate that you have found all local extrema.

Solution: We know from part **a.** that the critical points of g(x) are -4, -2, 0. Notice that the Second Derivative Test is inconclusive, because g''(-2) does not exist and g''(0) = 0. So we must use the First Derivative Test. Notice that the factor  $x^2$  is always non-negative, (x + 4) is negative for x < -4 and positive for x > -4, and  $(x + 2)^{1/3}$  is negative for x < -2 and positive for x > -2. This gives us the resulting signs:

Interval	x < -4	-4 < x < -2	-2 < x < 0	x > 0
Sign of $g'(x)$	$+ \cdot - \cdot - = +$	$+\cdot+\cdot-=-$	$+ \cdot + \cdot + = +$	$+\cdot+\cdot+=+$

So g(x) has a local maximum at x = -4 and a local minimum at x = -2. There is neither a local maximum nor a local minimum at x = 0.

Answer: Local max(es) at  $x = \underline{-4}$  and Local min(s) at  $x = \underline{-2}$ 

**d**. [5 points] Find the x-coordinates of all inflection points of f(x).

If there are none, write "NONE". Use calculus to find and justify your answers, and be sure to show enough evidence to demonstrate that you have found all inflection points.

Solution: We know from part **b.** that g''(x) is 0 or undefined (i.e., g'(x) has a critical point or is undefined) at  $x = -3, -2, -\frac{8}{5}, 0$ . To determine whether these are actually inflection points (where concavity changes), we must test the sign of the second derivative on either side of each point. Notice that the factor 2x is negative for x < 0 and positive for x > 0, the factor (x + 3) is negative for x < -3 and positive for x > -3, the factor (5x + 8) is negative for  $x < -\frac{8}{5}$  and positive for  $x > -\frac{8}{5}$ , and the factor  $(x + 2)^{-2/3}$  is always non-negative. We find the following signs for g''(x):

Interval	x < -3	-3 < x < -2	$-2 < x < -\frac{8}{5}$	$-\frac{8}{5} < x < 0$	x > 0
Sign of $g''(x)$	${+} = -$	$\frac{-++-}{+} = +$	$\frac{-++-}{+} = +$	$\frac{-\cdot+\cdot+}{+} = -$	$\frac{\pm \cdot \pm \cdot \pm}{\pm} = \pm$

So g(x) has inflection points at x = -3,  $x = -\frac{8}{5}$ , and x = 0 but it does <u>not</u> have an inflection point at x = -2.

**Answer:** Inflection point(s) at x = 1

 $-3, -\frac{8}{5}, 0$ 

 $-3, -2, -\frac{8}{5}, 0$