Name:

ANSWER KEY

Score:

1. Let f(x) be a continuous function. The graph of its derivative, f'(x), is shown below.



- (a) (2 points) What are the critical points of f? Explain. The critical numbers of f are the values of x where f'(x) = 0 or is undefined. The critical points are x = 1, 3, 4, 5.
- (b) (1 point) Where does f have local minima? Explain.
 By the first derivative test, since f' goes from negative to positive at x = 1 and x = 5, f has local minima at x = 1 and x = 5.
- (c) (1 point) Where does f have local maxima? Explain.
 By the first derivative test, since f' goes from positive to negative at x = 4, f has a local maximum at x = 4.
- (d) (2 point) Where does f have inflection points? Explain. The points where f' goes from increasing to decreasing or from decreasing to increasing are inflection points. The inflection points of f are at x = 1.7 and x = 3.
- (e) (1 point) Is f(1) larger than, smaller than, or equal to f(3)? Explain. Since f'(x) is positive on (1,3), f must be increasing between x = 1 and x = 3. Thus f(3) > f(1).

2. (3 points) Suppose that we know that f(x) is continuous and differentiable everywhere. Also suppose that f(x) has two roots. Prove that f'(x) must have at least one root.

[Hint: Use the Mean Value Theorem.]

Since f(x) has two roots, we know that there exist values a and b such that f(a) = 0 and f(b) = 0. The slope of the secant line between x = a and x = b is

$$\frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} = \frac{0}{b - a} = 0$$

We know f is continuous and differentiable, so we may use the Mean Value Theorem. According to the MVT, there exists an x-value c between a and b such that

$$f'(c) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}.$$

But we already calculated that $\frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} = 0$, so f'(c) = 0. This means f'(x) has at least one root at x = c.

