

(a): Compute the following limit if it exists, and if it does not exist but is infinite, describe the infinite limit and explain (factor the denominator):

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^-} \frac{x-2}{x^2-3x-4}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow -1^-} \frac{x-2}{(x+1)(x-4)} = \boxed{-\infty}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x-2 &\rightarrow -3 \\ x-4 &\rightarrow -5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x+1 &\rightarrow 0 \\ \text{but } x &< -1 \\ \text{so } x+1 &< 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{-}{(-)(-)} = -$$

denom goes to 0,  
numer does not,  
expression stays  
negative

Good

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(b): Compute the following limit (if it exists), making your steps clear:  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \sqrt[5]{\frac{x^3-1}{3x^2+2x+1}}$

$$= \sqrt[5]{\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^3-1}{3x^2+2x+1}} = \sqrt[5]{\frac{0^3-1}{3(0^2)+2(0)+1}} = \sqrt[5]{-1} = \boxed{-1}$$

↑  
Property of limit,  
odd root so  
defined

↑  
Since denom is  $\neq 0$ ,  
we know we can  
directly substitute

← wouldn't  
hurt to  
mention  
these  
things

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