


TEST YOUR SKILLS

1  **TEST** Let $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ be a function such that $f(1) = 1$ and $3f(n+1) - 3f(n) = 1$ for all $n \geq 1$. Find $f(2002)$.

(Hint: $f(n+1) = f(n) + \frac{1}{3} = f(n-1) + \frac{2}{3} = \dots$)

- A** 666 **B** 667 **C** 668 **D** 669 **E** 670

(USA American Mathematics Contest 10, 2002)

Le gare American Mathematics Contest 10 (AMC 10) sono rivolte a studenti americani del primo biennio superiore.

2 Let f and g be two functions defined on \mathbb{R} by:

$$f: x \mapsto 2x - 1, \quad g: x \mapsto \frac{7x - 2}{3}.$$

- a) Establish if $f(3a + 2b) = 3f(a) + 2f(b)$, for all $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$.
- b) Express $g(a + b)$ in the form $g(a) + g(b) + c$, $c \in \mathbb{R}$.
- c) Plot the graphs of the two functions and hence estimate the value of x for which $f(x) = g(x)$.
a) no; b) $c = \frac{2}{3}$; c) $x = -1$

3 If $f(x) = \frac{3}{1+x}$ for all $x \neq -1$, then $3f(x) = \dots$

(USA Lehigh University: High School Math Contest, 2005)

4 **TEST** Tables for f and g are given. Use them to evaluate $(g \circ f)(-2)$ if possible.

x	$f(x)$
-2	1
0	4
2	3
4	2

x	$g(x)$
1	2
2	4
3	-2
4	0

- A** -2 **B** 0 **C** 2 **D** 4 **E** Undefined.

(USA University of Wyoming, Test, 2004)

5 Let $f(x) = x^2 + 3$ and $g(x) = 2x - 1$. Find and expand completely $f(g(x))$.

(USA Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Final Exam, 2003)

$$[f(g(x)) = 4x^2 - 4x + 4]$$

6 **TEST** Which of the following is true of the relation h whose domain and range are both over the set of all integers such that

$$h(n) = 4n - 1?$$

- I. It is a function.
 II. It is one-to-one.
 III. It is onto.
 IV. It decreases as the value of n increases.

- A** I only.
B All are true.
C I and II.
D I and III.
E None.

(USA Vanderbilt High School Mathematics Competition, 2006)

GLOSSARY

domain: dominio
to establish: stabilire
to estimate: stimare
to evaluate: valutare, calcolare
to expand: espandere, sviluppare

graph: grafico
hence: quindi, inoltre
one-to-one: iniettiva
onto: suriettiva
range: codominio
relation: relazione
table: tabella