1. Define $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} -2x+8 & \text{if } x < 3\\ x-1 & \text{if } x \ge 3 \end{cases}$$

Show that f'(3) is undefined.

Proof: Assume by way of contradiction that f'(3) = a with $a \in \mathbb{R}$. Then if $\{x_n\} = \{3 - 1/n\}$ we have

$$\left\{\frac{f(x_n) - f(3)}{x_n - 3}\right\} = \left\{\frac{-2(3 - 1/n) + 8 - 2}{3 - 1/n - 3}\right\} = \left\{\frac{2/n}{-1/n}\right\} = \{-2\}$$

which converges to -2 so a = -2. And if $\{x_n\} = \{3 + 1/n\}$ we have

$$\left\{\frac{f(x_n) - f(3)}{x_n - 3}\right\} = \left\{\frac{3 + 1/n - 1 - 2}{3 + 1/n - 3}\right\} = \left\{\frac{1/n}{1/n}\right\} = \{1\}$$

which converges to 1 so a = 1. Since $-2 \neq 1$ we have a contradiction.

QED

2. Define $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & \text{if } x \in \mathbb{Q} \\ -x^2 & \text{if } x \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Q} \end{cases}$$

Show that f'(0) = 0.

Proof (excluding special cases): Suppose $\{x_n\}$ converges to 0. We divide $\{x_n\}$ into two sequences, $\{y_n\}$ consisting of all rationals and $\{z_n\}$ consisting of all irrationals. Both converge to 0 too.

Then

$$\left\{\frac{f(y_n) - f(0)}{y_n - 0}\right\} = \left\{\frac{y_n^2}{y_n}\right\} = \left\{y_n\right\}$$

which converges to 0 And

$$\left\{\frac{f(z_n) - f(0)}{z_n - 0}\right\} = \left\{\frac{-z_n}{z_n}\right\} = \{-z_n\}$$

which converges to 0. Therefore $\{x_n\}$ converges to 0.

QED

3. Define $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & \text{if } x \le 1\\ 2x - 1 & \text{if } x > 1 \end{cases}$$

Show that f is continuous at x = 1 and f'(1) = 2.

Proof (excluding special cases): Suppose $\{x_n\}$ converges to 1. We divide $\{x_n\}$ into two sequences, $\{y_n\}$ all in $(-\infty, 1]$ and $\{z_n\}$ all in $(1, \infty)$. Both converge to 1 too. Continuity: Observe that $\{f(y_n)\} = \{y_n^2\}$ converges to 1 and $\{f(z_n)\} = \{2z_n - 1\}$ converges to 1 and so $\{f(x_n)\}$ converges to 1 and 1 = f(1). Derivative: Observe that

$$\left\{\frac{f(y_n) - f(1)}{y_n - 1}\right\} = \left\{\frac{y_n^2 - 1}{y_n - 1}\right\} = \{y_n + 1\}$$

converges to 2 and

$$\left\{\frac{f(z_n) - f(1)}{z_n - 1}\right\} = \left\{\frac{2z_n - 1 - 1}{z_n - 1}\right\} = \{2\}$$

converges to 2 and so $\left\{\frac{f(x_n)-f(1)}{x_n-1}\right\}$ converges to 2.

QED