

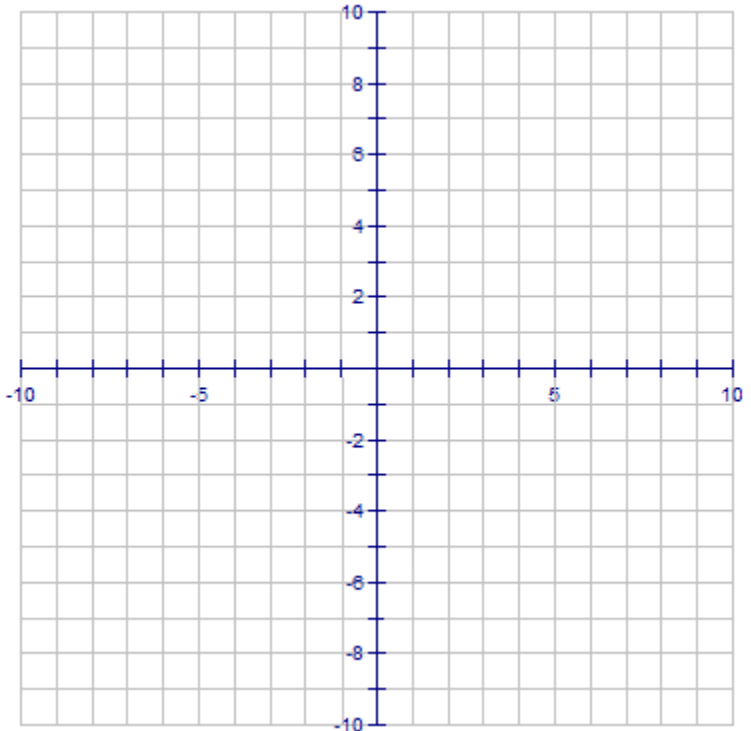
## GRAPHING RATIONAL FUNCTIONS

**To Identify Types of Discontinuity:**

- Step 1: HOLES (Removable Discontinuities)**
- ✓ Factor numerator & denominator
  - ✓ Simplify
  - ✓ If anything cancels, then there is a hole (More than one factor cancels → More than one hole)
  - ✓ Find the ordered pair,  $(x, y)$ , substitute  $x$  into the **SIMPLIFIED EQUATION** to get  $y$
- Step 2: VERTICAL ASYMPTOTES (USE SIMPLIFIED EQUATION)**
- ✓ Set simplified equation denominator = 0, solve for  $x$
- Step 3: HORIZONTAL ASYMPTOTES – Two Cases (USE SIMPLIFIED EQUATION)**
- ✓ Degree of Denominator = Degree of Numerator →  $y =$  ratio of leading coefficients
  - ✓ Degree of Denominator > Degree of Numerator →  $y = 0$
- Step 4: SLANT ASYMPTOTES (Exists only if Horizontal Asymptote is not present) (USE SIMPLIFIED EQUATION)**
- ✓ Degree of Numerator is **ONE** degree larger than the Degree of Denominator
  - ✓ Use Long Division
  - ✓ Ignore the remainder
  - ✓ Answer in the form  $y = mx + b$

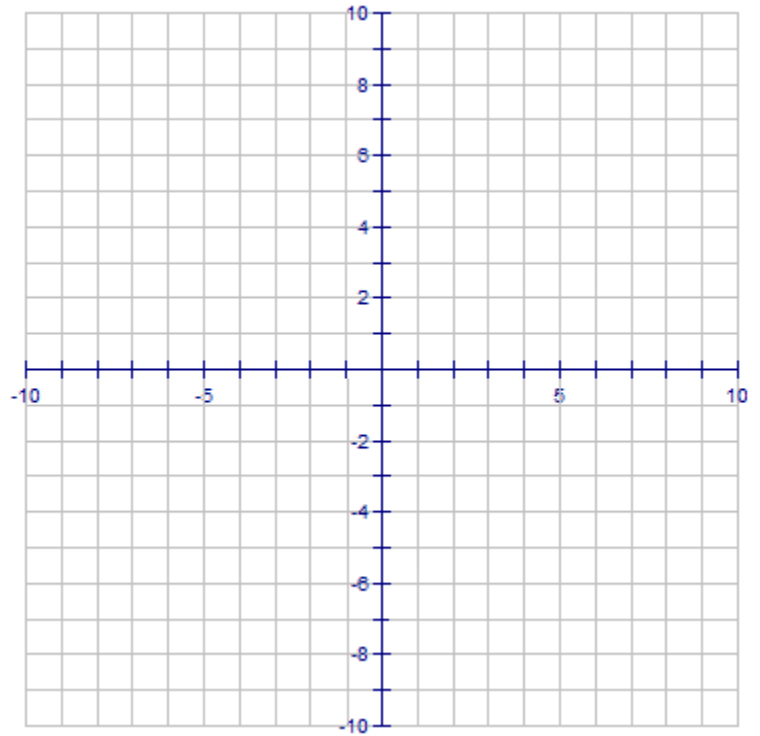
**Directions:** State each discontinuity,  $x$ -intercept, and  $y$ -intercept. Then sketch a graph.

1.)  $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 4}{x - 2}$



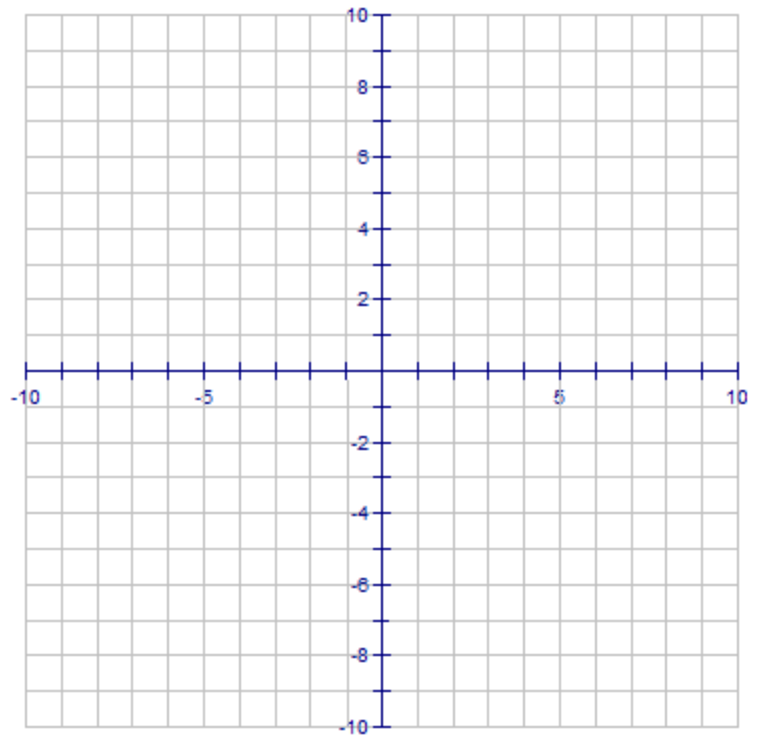
HOLE(S)	VERTICAL ASYMPTOTE(S)	HORIZONTAL ASYMPTOTE	SLANT ASYMPTOTE	$x$ -intercept(s)	$y$ -intercept

2.)  $f(x) = \frac{-2}{(x-3)^2}$



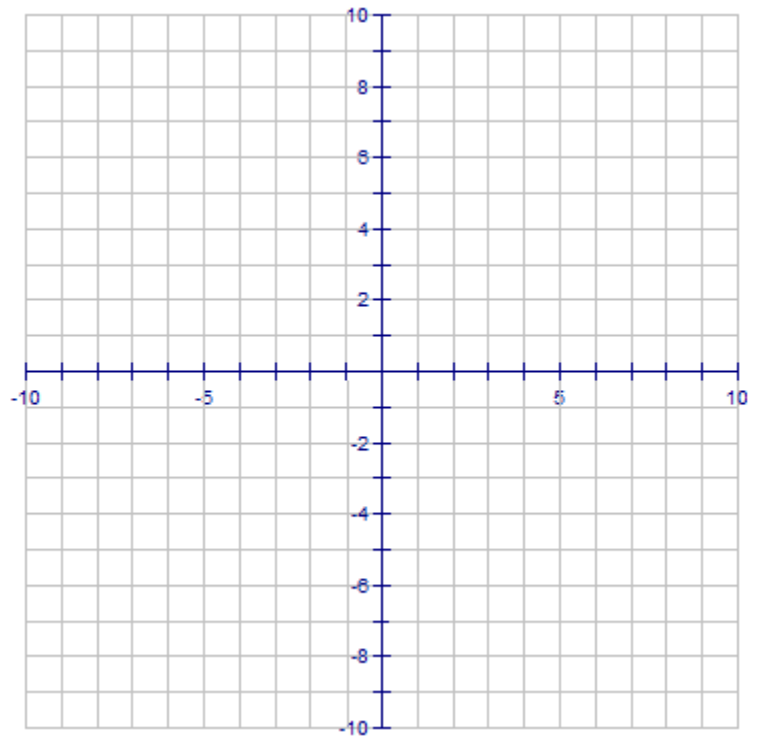
HOLE(S)	VERTICAL ASYMPTOTE(S)	HORIZONTAL ASYMPTOTE	SLANT ASYMPTOTE	x-intercept(s)	y-intercept

3.)  $f(x) = \frac{-5}{x^2-2x-3}$



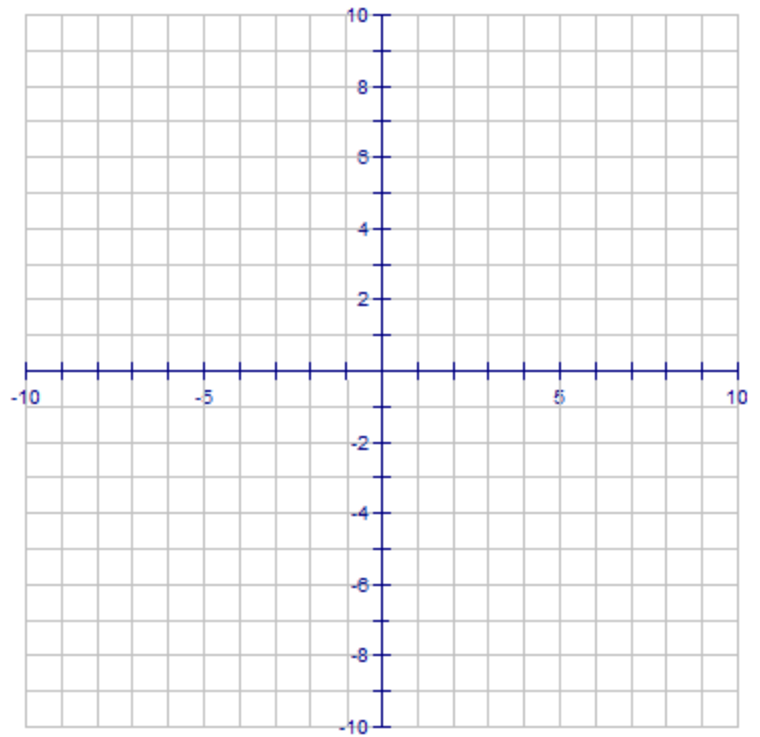
HOLE(S)	VERTICAL ASYMPTOTE(S)	HORIZONTAL ASYMPTOTE	SLANT ASYMPTOTE	x-intercept(s)	y-intercept

$$4.) f(x) = \frac{x^3 - 9x}{x^2 + 4x - 21}$$



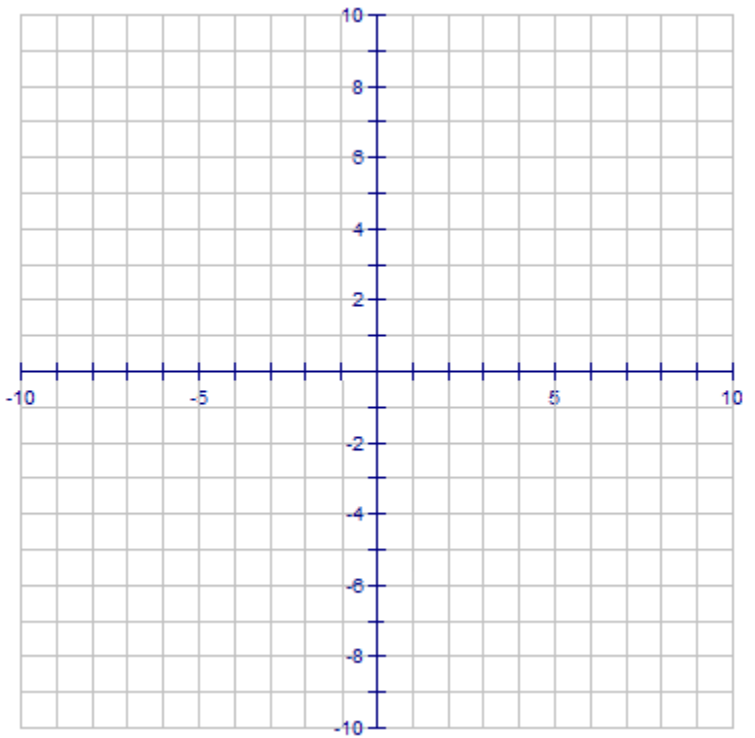
HOLE(S)	VERTICAL ASYMPTOTE(S)	HORIZONTAL ASYMPTOTE	SLANT ASYMPTOTE	x-intercept(s)	y-intercept

$$5.) f(x) = \frac{x^2 + 5x + 8}{x + 3}$$



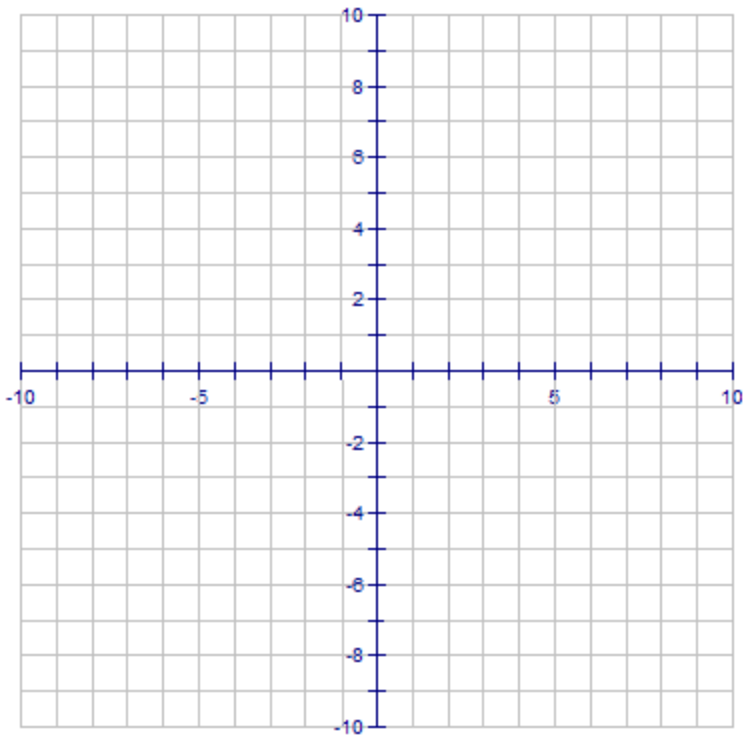
HOLE(S)	VERTICAL ASYMPTOTE(S)	HORIZONTAL ASYMPTOTE	SLANT ASYMPTOTE	x-intercept(s)	y-intercept

6.)  $f(x) = \frac{x^2+x-2}{(x+2)(x^2-2x-15)}$



HOLE(S)	VERTICAL ASYMPTOTE(S)	HORIZONTAL ASYMPTOTE	SLANT ASYMPTOTE	x-intercept(s)	y-intercept

7.)  $f(x) = \frac{x^2+3x-4}{x}$



HOLE(S)	VERTICAL ASYMPTOTE(S)	HORIZONTAL ASYMPTOTE	SLANT ASYMPTOTE	x-intercept(s)	y-intercept