

8.1 Rules for Inequalities

1. a) $3x+7 > 0$
 $3x > -7$
 $x > -\frac{7}{3} \quad (-\frac{7}{3}, \infty)$

b) $17-2x \geq 13$
 $-2x \geq -4$
 $\frac{-2x}{-2} \leq \frac{-4}{-2}$
 $x \leq 2 \quad (-\infty, 2]$

c) $x^2-7x+6 > 0$
 $(x-6)(x-1) > 0$
 $x-6=0$ or $x-1=0$
 $x=6$ $x=1$

	$x-6$	$x-1$	function
$x < 1$	-	-	+
$1 < x < 6$	-	+	-
$x > 6$	+	+	+

looking for pos. $\rightarrow x < 1$ or $x > 6$
 $(-\infty, 1) \cup (6, \infty)$

d) $12-x-x^2 > 0$
 $-12+x+x^2 < 0$
 $x^2+x-12 < 0$
 $(x+4)(x-3) < 0$
 $x+4=0$ or $x-3=0$
 $x=-4$ $x=3$

	$x+4$	$x-3$	function
$x < -4$	-	-	+
$-4 < x < 3$	+	-	-
$x > 3$	+	+	+

looking for neg. $\rightarrow -4 < x < 3$
 $(-4, 3)$

e) $x^2 < 3x$
 $x^2-3x < 0$
 $x(x-3) < 0$
 $x=0$ or $x-3=0$
 $x=3$

	x	$x-3$	function
$x < 0$	-	-	+
$0 < x < 3$	+	-	-
$x > 3$	+	+	+

looking for neg. $\rightarrow 0 < x < 3 = (0, 3)$

8.1 cont.

1. f) $(x+1)(2x+1)(x-6) > 0$

$x+1=0, 2x+1=0, x-6=0$

$x=-1 \quad 2x=-1 \quad x=6$

$x = -\frac{1}{2}$

looking for pos. $\rightarrow -1 < x < -\frac{1}{2}$ and $x > 6$
 $(-1, -\frac{1}{2}) \cup (6, \infty)$

	$x+1$	$2x+1$	$x-6$	function
$x < -1$	-	-	-	-
$-1 < x < -\frac{1}{2}$	+	-	-	+
$-\frac{1}{2} < x < 6$	+	+	-	-
$x > 6$	+	+	+	+

g) $x^3 + 3x^2 - 10x < 0$

$x(x^2 + 3x - 10) < 0$

$x(x+5)(x-2) < 0$

$x=0, x+5=0, x-2=0$

$x = -5 \quad x = 2$

looking for neg. $\rightarrow x < -5$ and $0 < x < 2$
 $(-\infty, -5) \cup (0, 2)$

	x	$x+5$	$x-2$	function
$x < -5$	-	-	-	-
$-5 < x < 0$	-	+	-	+
$0 < x < 2$	+	+	-	-
$x > 2$	+	+	+	+

h) $x^3 + 2x^2 - 9x - 18 > 0$

$x^2(x+2) - 9(x+2) > 0$

$(x+2)(x^2-9) > 0$

$(x+2)(x+3)(x-3) > 0$

$x+2=0, x+3=0, x-3=0$

$x = -2 \quad x = -3 \quad x = 3$

looking for pos $\rightarrow -3 < x < -2$ and $x > 3$
 $(-3, -2) \cup (3, \infty)$

	$x+2$	$x+3$	$x-3$	function
$x < -3$	-	-	-	-
$-3 < x < -2$	-	+	-	+
$-2 < x < 3$	+	+	-	-
$x > 3$	+	+	+	+

2. a) $\frac{2x+1}{x^2+1} > 0$

$(x^2+1)(2x+1) > 0 (x^2+1)$

$2x+1 > 0$

$2x > -1$

$x > -\frac{1}{2}$

$(-\frac{1}{2}, \infty)$

x^2 will always be positive
 so x^2+1 will always
 be positive - so the neg
 is only one case

8.1 cont.

2. b) $\frac{x+2}{x-3} > 0$

$x \neq 3$

$x \neq -2$

	$x+2$	$x-3$	function
$x < -2$	-	-	+
$-2 < x < 3$	+	-	-
$x > 3$	+	+	+

looking for pos $\rightarrow x < -2$ and $x > 3$
 $(-\infty, -2) \cup (3, \infty)$

c) $\frac{x^2+x}{(x-1)^3} < 0$

$x^2+x = x(x+1)$

$x \neq 0$ $x \neq -1$

$x-1 \neq 0$

$x \neq 1$

	x	$x+1$	$(x-1)^3$	function
$x < -1$	-	-	-	-
$-1 < x < 0$	-	+	-	+
$0 < x < 1$	+	+	-	-
$x > 1$	+	+	+	+

looking for neg. $\rightarrow x < -1$ and $0 < x < 1$
 $(-\infty, -1) \cup (0, 1)$

d) $\frac{5x}{(x^2-1)^2} < 0$

$x \neq 0$

$x^2-1 \neq 0$

$x^2 \neq 1$

$x \neq \pm 1$

	$5x$	$(x^2-1)^2$	function
$x < -1$	-	+	-
$-1 < x < 0$	-	+	-
$0 < x < 1$	+	+	+
$x > 1$	+	+	+

looking for neg $\rightarrow x < -1$ and $-1 < x < 0$
 $(-\infty, -1) \cup (-1, 0)$