Suppose

$$f(x) = c$$

- **1.** f'(a) = 1
- **2.** f'(a) = ca
- **3.** f'(a) = c
- **4.** f'(a) = 0
- 5. the limit does not exist
  - 6. none of the above

Suppose

$$f(x) = c$$

Use the definition of the derivative to find f'(a)

- **1.** f'(a) = 1
- **2.** f'(a) = ca
- **3.** f'(a) = c
- **4.** f'(a) = 0
- 5. the limit does not exist
  - 6. none of the above

**4.** f'(a) = 0 for any *a* 

Suppose

$$f(x) = x$$

- **1.** f'(a) = 1
- **2.** f'(a) = ca
- **3.** f'(a) = c
- **4.** f'(a) = 0
- 5. the limit does not exist
  - 6. none of the above

Suppose

$$f(x) = x$$

Use the definition of the derivative to find f'(a)

- **1.** f'(a) = 1
- **2.** f'(a) = ca
- **3.** f'(a) = c
- **4.** f'(a) = 0
  - the limit does not exist
    - 6. none of the above

1. f'(a) = 1 for any a

The algebra is a bit complicated but with enough time and patience we could show that if  $f(x) = x^n$  for some positive integer *n*, then

$$f'(a) = na^{n-1}$$

The algebra is a bit complicated but with enough time and patience we could show that if  $f(x) = x^n$  for some positive integer *n*, then

$$f'(a) = na^{n-1}$$

This enables us to very easily find the derivatives of integer powers of x:

If 
$$f(x) = x^2$$
,  $f'(a) = 2a$ 

The algebra is a bit complicated but with enough time and patience we could show that if  $f(x) = x^n$  for some positive integer *n*, then

$$f'(a) = na^{n-1}$$

This enables us to very easily find the derivatives of integer powers of x:

If  $f(x) = x^2$ , f'(a) = 2aIf  $f(x) = x^5$ ,  $f'(a) = 5a^4$ 

The algebra is a bit complicated but with enough time and patience we could show that if  $f(x) = x^n$  for some positive integer *n*, then

$$f'(a) = na^{n-1}$$

This enables us to very easily find the derivatives of integer powers of x:

If 
$$f(x) = x^2$$
,  $f'(a) = 2a$   
If  $f(x) = x^5$ ,  $f'(a) = 5a^4$   
If  $f(x) = x^{23}$ ,  $f'(a) = 23a^{22}$ 

The algebra is a bit complicated but with enough time and patience we could show that if  $f(x) = x^n$  for some positive integer *n*, then

$$f'(a) = na^{n-1}$$

This enables us to very easily find the derivatives of integer powers of x:

If  $f(x) = x^2$ , f'(a) = 2aIf  $f(x) = x^5$ ,  $f'(a) = 5a^4$ If  $f(x) = x^{23}$ ,  $f'(a) = 23a^{22}$ 

It can be shown that the formula even works when n is not a positive integer; n can be any real number.

Suppose

$$f(x) = x^7$$

- **1.**  $f'(a) = 6a^7$ **2.**  $f'(a) = 7a^6$
- **3.**  $f'(a) = a^7$

- 4.  $f'(a) = 6a^7$
- 5. the limit does not exist
- 6. none of the above

Suppose

$$f(x) = x^7$$

Use the definition of the derivative to find f'(a)

**1.** 
$$f'(a) = 6a^7$$

**2.** 
$$f'(a) = 7a^6$$

**3.** 
$$f'(a) = a^7$$

4. 
$$f'(a) = 6a^7$$

- 5. the limit does not exist
- 6. none of the above

**2.**  $f'(a) = 7a^6$  for any *a* 

Suppose

$$f(x) = x^4$$

**1.** 
$$f'(a) = 4a^3$$
  
**2.**  $f'(a) = 3a^4$ 

**3.** 
$$f'(a) = a^3$$

- 4.  $f'(a) = 4a^4$
- 5. the limit does not exist
- 6. none of the above

Suppose

$$f(x) = x^4$$

1. 
$$f'(a) = 4a^3$$
  
2.  $f'(a) = 3a^4$   
3.  $f'(a) = a^3$ 

**4.** 
$$f'(a) = 4a^4$$

- 5. the limit does not exist
- 6. none of the above

**1.** 
$$f'(a) = 4a^3$$
 for any *a*