

SECTION 2-7: DERIVATIVES AND RATES OF CHANGE

1. Given the curve  $y = g(x)$ ,

(a) Write an expression for the slope of the secant line through the points  $P(8, g(8))$  and  $Q(c, g(c))$ .

(b) Write an expression for the slope of the tangent line at  $P(8, g(8))$ .

(c) Sketch a “cartoon” including  $g(x)$ ,  $P$  and  $Q$  and use it to illustrate the computations in parts (a) and (b) above.

2. (a) **Fill in the boxes** The derivative of a function  $f$  at a number  $a$  is:

$$f'(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0}$$

- (b) Use the expression above to find  $f'(2)$  for  $f(x) = 6x - 3x^2$ .

- (c) Find  $f(2)$ .

- (d) Use the answers to parts (a) and (b) to write an equation of the line tangent to  $f(x)$  when  $x = 2$ .

- (e) Sketch a “cartoon” including  $f(x)$  and that tangent line. Is your answer in part (c) plausible?