

Absolute Value Function

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2020

## The absolute value function

The absolute value function is a special function that takes the sign away from the value. For example, if we consider the following numbers,

$$-1, 2, -10, 56, -3, -2.1$$

the sign of each function is, respectively,

$$-, +, -, +, +, -, -$$

The **absolute value function** removes the signs and leaves the “value”. So we have from the list above,

$$1, 2, 10, 5, 6, 3, 2.1$$

after the absolute value function is applied to each number. Formally, the absolute value function is written and defined as,

$$f(x) = |x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

For a specific function  $g(x)$  the absolute function of  $g(x)$  is,

$$|g(x)| = \begin{cases} g(x) & \text{if } g(x) \geq 0 \\ -g(x) & \text{if } g(x) < 0 \end{cases}$$

**Exercises**

1. Evaluate the following expressions. Please put your final answer in the box provided.

(a) (1 point)  $|-3 + 2|$

(b) (1 point)  $|3| - |-4| + |3 - 7|$

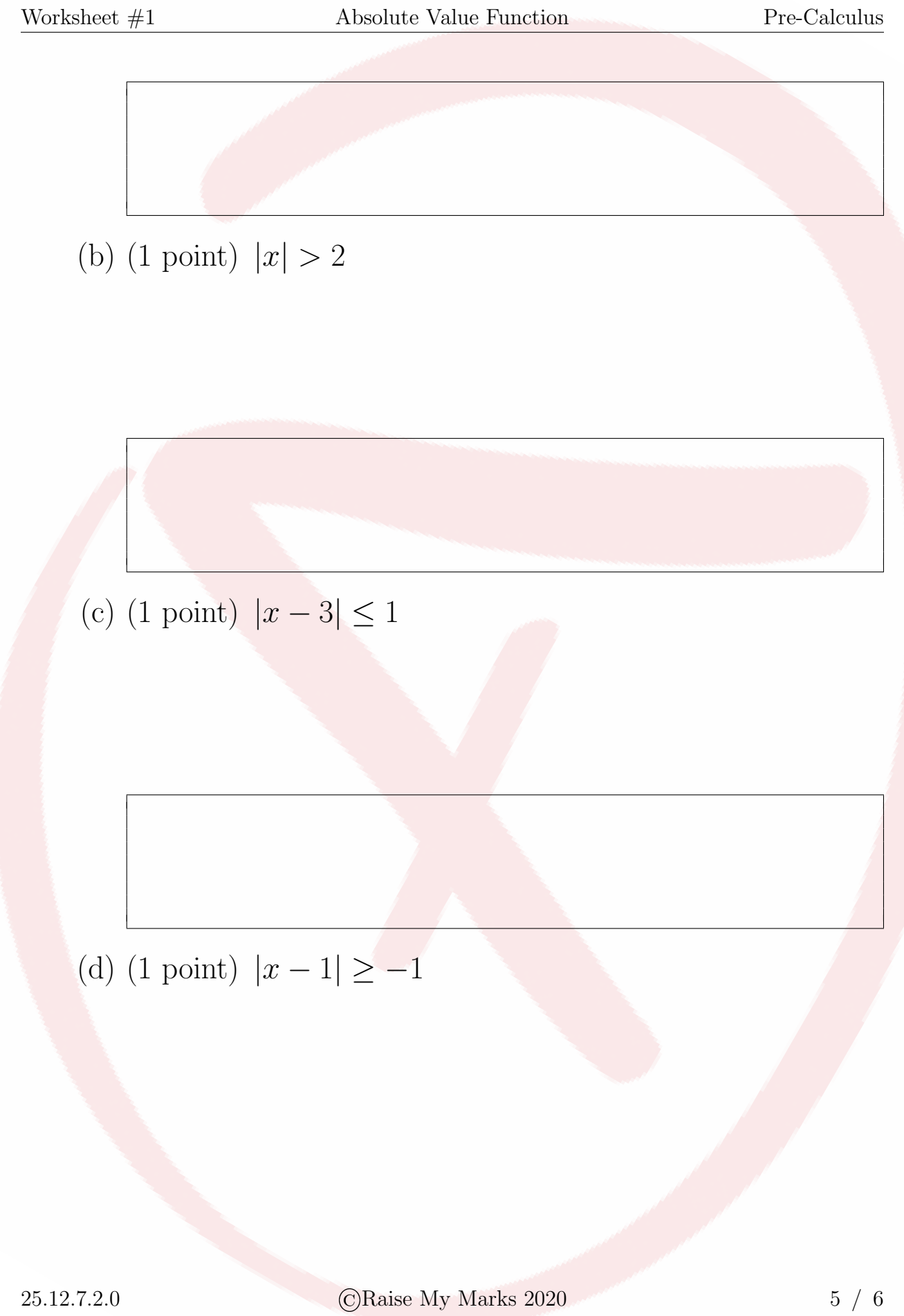
(c) (1 point)  $|9 - 3| + 5| - 3| - 3| - 2|$

(d) (1 point)  $|-5 + 2| + 4|3 - 10|$

(e) (1 point)  $-|4 - 2| + 3| - 10 + 6| - 2|5 - 3|$

2. Graph each number line. Please put your final answer in the box provided.

(a) (1 point)  $|x| \leq 3$



(b) (1 point)  $|x| > 2$

(c) (1 point)  $|x - 3| \leq 1$

(d) (1 point)  $|x - 1| \geq -1$



(e) (1 point)  $|2x| < 1$

