

Invertible Functions - Guided Lesson Explanation

Explanation#1

Swap the x and y variables to create the inverse relation. It will be the set of ordered pairs:

$$\{(2,4)(-8,-5)(3,-6)(-1,8)(2,2)(-2,1)(-6,4)(1,-8)\}$$

Since function f was not a one-to-one function (the y value of 2 was used twice), the inverse relation will not be a function (because the x value of 2 now gets mapped to separate y values which is not possible for functions).

Explanation#2

The function: $f(x) = 6x - 3$

Put "y" for "x", add 3 to both sides:

$$y = 6x - 3$$

Divide both sides by 6:

$$y + 3 = 6x$$

Swap sides:

$$y + 3/6 = x$$

$$x = y + 3/6$$

Solution (put " $f^{-1}(y)$ " for "x") : $f^{-1}(y) = (y + 3)/6$

Explanation#3

$$f(x) = (x + 2)/x$$

$$y = (x + 2)/x$$

$$x = (y + 2)/y$$

$$x y = y + 2$$

$$y(x - 1) = 2$$

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

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

