Change of Sign

Functions will only change sign;

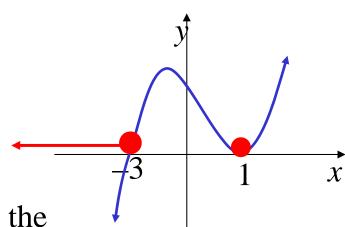
- at *x*-intercepts (zeroes)
- at discontinuities

Critical points of an inequation can be found by moving all terms to one side of the inequation and finding when the function created changes sign.

e.g. (i)
$$(x-1)^2(x+3) \le 0$$

 $x \le -3$ or $x = 1$

Q: for what values of *x* is the curve below the *x* axis?



$$(ii)\frac{2}{x+3} < 5$$

$$\frac{-13-5x}{x+3} < 0$$

$$\therefore x < -3 \text{ or } x > -\frac{13}{5}$$

critical points are;

zeroes:
$$-13-5x=0$$
 discontinuities: $x+3=0$

$$x = -\frac{13}{5}$$

$$x = -3$$

$$-3$$

$$-\frac{13}{5}$$

Exercise 5B; 1, 3bcf, 4ac, 5ac, 6, 7bdfh, 10ac, 11ac, 12