

$$\text{Set } f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{x+2} - 3}{x-7}$$

Then, because  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 7} \sqrt{x+2} - 3 = \sqrt{7+2} - 3 = \sqrt{9} - 3 = 3 - 3 = 0$   
 and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 7} x - 7 = 7 - 7 = 0,$

$f(7)$  is undefined (it is indeterminate of type  $\frac{0}{0}$ )

but we can still find  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 7} f(x)$  if we multiply cleverly by 1:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Write } f(x) &= f(x) \cdot 1 = f(x) \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x+2} + 3}{\sqrt{x+2} + 3} \\ &= \frac{(\sqrt{x+2} - 3)(\sqrt{x+2} + 3)}{(x-7)(\sqrt{x+2} + 3)} \\ &= \frac{(\sqrt{x+2})^2 - 3^2}{(x-7)(\sqrt{x+2} + 3)} \\ &= \frac{x+2 - 9}{(x-7)(\sqrt{x+2} + 3)} \\ &= \frac{x-7}{(x-7)(\sqrt{x+2} + 3)} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+2} + 3} \quad \text{whenever } x \neq 7 \end{aligned}$$

(which is good enough for finding the limit). So now

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 7} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 7} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+2} + 3} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{7+2} + 3} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{9} + 3} \\ &= \frac{1}{3+3} = \frac{1}{6} \end{aligned}$$