Exercise 19

For the following exercises, use each set of functions to find f(g(h(x))). Simplify your answers.

$$f(x) = x^2 + 1$$
, $g(x) = \frac{1}{x}$, and $h(x) = x + 3$

Solution

Compute f(g(h(x))) by plugging the formula for h(x) where x is in the formula for g(x) and then plugging this result into the formula for f(x).

$$g(h(x)) = \frac{1}{(x+3)}$$
$$= \frac{1}{x+3}$$

Therefore,

$$f(g(h(x))) = \left(\frac{1}{x+3}\right)^2 + 1$$
$$= \frac{1^2}{(x+3)^2} + 1$$
$$= \frac{1}{(x+3)^2} + 1.$$