The Velocity of Thomas the Tank Engine

Thomas the Tank Engine is d = f(t) miles from his boss Sir Topham Hatt, where *t* is given in hours. The graph of d = f(t) is shown for $0 \le t \le 7$. The derivative, d'(t) is Thomas' instantaneous velocity v(t) at time *t*. Recall d'(t) also gives Thomas' trajectory of movement.

- 1. Near what integer values of *t* is Thomas' velocity v(t) = d'(t) = 0? Hint: look at when the tangent line is horizontal. t =
- **2. a**. On what intervals of *t* is v(t) = d'(t) > 0?

b. At these times, is Thomas traveling *toward* Sir Topham Hatt or *away*?

3. a. On what intervals of t is v(t) = d'(t) < 0?

b. At these times, is Thomas traveling *toward* Sir Topham Hatt or *away*?

4. Discuss any values of *t* for which there are any absolute extremum (max or min) of v(t) = d'(t) on $0 \le t \le 7$.



5. Which of the following (dashed) graphs below is the velocity v(t) = d'(t) of Thomas? Select one. Explain your reasoning.



6. Interpret what the dashed graph in Choice F represents in the context of Thomas' trip.