

A.P. Calculus BC Test Two

Section Two

Free-Response

No Calculators

Time—40 minutes

Number of Questions—3

Each of the three questions is worth 9 points. The maximum possible points earned on this section is 27, which represents 50% of the total test score. There is no penalty for guessing.

- **SHOW ALL YOUR WORK.** You will be graded on the methods you use as well as the accuracy of your answers. Correct answers without supporting work may not receive full credit.
- Write all work for each problem in the space provided. Be sure to write clearly and legibly. Erased or crossed out work will not be graded.
- Justifications require that you give mathematical (non-calculator) reasons and that you clearly identify functions, graphs, tables, or other objects that you use.
- Your work must be expressed in mathematical notation rather than calculator syntax. For example, $y = x^2$ may not be written as $Y1=X^2$.
- Unless otherwise specified, answers (numeric or algebraic) need not be simplified. If your answer is given as a decimal approximation, it should be correct to three places after the decimal point.

Good Luck!

NAME:

Solution:

Multiple-Choice Answers

- 1 E
- 2 D
- 3 D
- 4 D
- 5 D
- 6 A
- 7 D
- 8 B
- 9 D
- 10 B
- 11 C
- 12 C
- 13 D
- 14 C
- 15 B

Free-response questions begin on the next page.

1. Let $f(x) = \sqrt{1 - \sin x}$.

(a) What is the domain of f ?

Solution: Since $-1 \leq \sin x \leq 1$, the domain is all real numbers. This part is worth 1 point:

1: domain

(b) Find $f'(x)$.

Solution:

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \sin x)^{-1/2}(-\cos x) = \frac{-\cos x}{2\sqrt{1 - \sin x}}.$$

This part is worth 2 points:

2: derivative

(c) What is the domain of f' ?

Solution: Here, $1 - \sin x \neq 0$, or $\sin x \neq 1$. This implies that x cannot be equal to $\dots, -7\pi/2, -3\pi/2, \pi/2, 5\pi/2, \dots$, or, the domain is all real numbers except x such that $x = \frac{\pi}{2} + 2k\pi$ for integer k . This part is worth 3 points:

1: recognizing that $\sin x \neq 1$

2: domain

(d) Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of f at $x = 0$.

Solution: The slope is $f'(0) = -\frac{1}{2}$ and at $x = 0$, the curve is at the point $(0, 1)$. Hence, the tangent is

$$-\frac{1}{2}(x - 0) = y - 1$$

or

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

This part is worth 3 points:

1: value of $f'(0)$

1: point of tangency

1: tangent line equation

[This question is taken from the 1987 AB Exam.]

2. Consider the curve $y^3 + 7x^2 = x^3$.

(a) Write a general expression for the slope of the curve.

Solution: Implicit differentiation gives

$$\begin{aligned}3y^2y' + 14x &= 3x^2 \\3y^2y' &= 3x^2 - 14x \\y' &= \frac{3x^2 - 14x}{3y^2}\end{aligned}$$

This part is worth 2 points:

- 1: differentiation
- 1: solves for y'

(b) Find the equation of the tangent line to the curve at $x = 8$.

Solution: At $x = 8$, $y = 4$. Thus the slope is

$$y' = \frac{3(8^2) - 14(8)}{3(4^2)} = \frac{192 - 112}{48} = \frac{80}{64} = \frac{5}{4}.$$

Therefore, the tangent line is

$$\frac{5}{4}(x - 8) = y - 4$$

or

$$y = \frac{5}{4}x - 6.$$

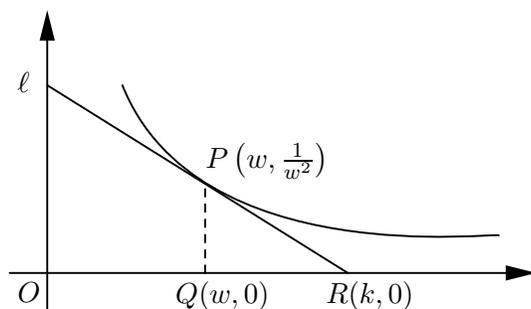
This part is worth 3 points:

- 1: value of y
- 1: value of y'
- 1: tangent line equation

- (c) Find all points on the curve where tangent lines are horizontal or vertical.

Solution: Horizontal tangents occur when $y' = 0$. Set the numerator of the derivative equal to zero to get $x(3x - 14) = 0$, or $x = 0$ and $x = \frac{14}{3}$. Vertical tangents occur when the derivative is undefined. Set the denominator of the derivative equal to zero to get $y = 0$. We are asked for points, so when $x = 0$, $y = 0$; when $x = \frac{14}{3}$, $y = -\frac{7}{3}\sqrt[3]{4}$; and when $y = 0$, $x = 0$ or $x = 7$. But this implies that there is a horizontal tangent and a vertical tangent at $(0, 0)$! This cannot happen—the only conclusion is that there is a cusp at $(0, 0)$, so that the only vertical tangent is at $(7, 0)$ and the only horizontal tangent is at $(\frac{14}{3}, -\frac{7}{3}\sqrt[3]{4})$. This part is worth 4 points:

- 1: sets $dy/dx = 0$
- 1: determines when dy/dx is undefined
- 1: rules out $(0, 0)$ as a point of tangency
- 1: both points



3. In the figure above, line ℓ is tangent to the graph of $y = \frac{1}{x^2}$ at point $P(w, \frac{1}{w^2})$, where $w > 0$. Point Q has coordinates $(w, 0)$. Line ℓ crosses the x -axis at the point $R(k, 0)$.
- (a) Find the value of k when $w = 3$.

Solution: Since $y' = -\frac{2}{x^3}$, we have $y'(3) = -\frac{2}{27}$. Thus, line ℓ goes through $(3, \frac{1}{9})$ and $(k, 0)$ with slope $-\frac{2}{27}$:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{0 - \frac{1}{9}}{k - 3} &= -\frac{2}{27} \\ 0 - \frac{1}{9} &= -\frac{2}{27}(k - 3) \\ k &= \frac{9}{2}\end{aligned}$$

This part is worth 2 points:

- 1: value of $y'(3)$
- 1: value of k

- (b) For all $w > 0$, find k in terms of w .

Solution: Line ℓ goes through $(w, \frac{1}{w^2})$ and $(k, 0)$ with slope $-\frac{2}{w^3}$:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{0 - \frac{1}{w^2}}{k - w} &= -\frac{2}{w^3} \\ 0 - \frac{1}{w^2} &= -\frac{2}{w^3}(k - w) \\ k &= \frac{3}{2}w\end{aligned}$$

This part is worth 2 points:

- 1: equation relating w and k using slopes
- 1: answer

- (c) Suppose w is increasing at a constant rate of 7 units per second. When $w = 5$, what is the rate of change of k with respect to time?

Solution: Implicit differentiation gives

$$\frac{dk}{dt} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{dw}{dt} = \frac{3}{2} \cdot 7 = \frac{21}{2}.$$

This part is worth 1 point:

1: answer

- (d) Suppose w is increasing at a constant rate of 7 units per second. What is the rate of change in the area of triangle PQR with respect to time?

Solution: The base of the triangle is $k - w$ and the height is $\frac{1}{w^2}$; recalling from part (b) that $k = \frac{3}{2}w$, we have the area as

$$A = \frac{1}{2}(k - w) \frac{1}{w^2} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{3}{2}w - w \right) \frac{1}{w^2} = \frac{1}{4w}.$$

Differentiating implicitly gives

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dA}{dt} &= -\frac{1}{4w^2} \frac{dw}{dt} \\ \frac{dA}{dt} &= -\frac{1}{4(5^2)} \cdot 7 \\ \frac{dA}{dt} &= -\frac{1}{100} \cdot 7 = -0.07 \end{aligned}$$

This part is worth 4 points:

- 1: area formula in terms of w and/or k
- 1: differentiation
- 1: uses values of w and dw/dt
- 1: answer

[This question is taken from the 1999 AB Exam.]