

Find $h'(2)$, given $h(x) = f(g(x))$, $f(u) = u^2 - 1$, $g(2) = 3$, and $g'(2) = -1$.

Solution

$$h(x) = f(g(x)), \text{ therefore}$$

$$h'(x) = f'(g(x)) \times g'(x)$$

$$f(u) = u^2 - 1, g(2) = 3, g'(2) = -1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } h'(2) &= f'(g(2)) \times g'(2) \\ &= f'(3) \times g'(2). \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Since } f(u) = u^2 - 1, f'(u) = 2u, \text{ and } f'(3) = 6,$$

$$\begin{aligned} h'(2) &= 6(-1) \\ &= -6. \end{aligned}$$