

## Differential Equations Released Questions

**AB–4****1999**

4. Suppose that the function  $f$  has a continuous second derivative for all  $x$ , and that  $f(0) = 2$ ,  $f'(0) = -3$ , and  $f''(0) = 0$ . Let  $g$  be a function whose derivative is given by  $g'(x) = e^{-2x}(3f(x) + 2f'(x))$  for all  $x$ .
- Write an equation of the line tangent to the graph of  $f$  at the point where  $x = 0$ .
  - Is there sufficient information to determine whether or not the graph of  $f$  has a point of inflection when  $x = 0$ ? Explain your answer.
  - Given that  $g(0) = 4$ , write an equation of the line tangent to the graph of  $g$  at the point where  $x = 0$ .
  - Show that  $g''(x) = e^{-2x}(-6f(x) - f'(x) + 2f''(x))$ . Does  $g$  have a local maximum at  $x = 0$ ? Justify your answer.

**AP Calculus AB–5 / BC–5****2000**

Consider the curve given by  $xy^2 - x^3y = 6$ .

- Show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{3x^2y - y^2}{2xy - x^3}$ .
- Find all points on the curve whose  $x$ -coordinate is 1, and write an equation for the tangent line at each of these points.
- Find the  $x$ -coordinate of each point on the curve where the tangent line is vertical.

**AP Calculus AB–6****2000**

Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{3x^2}{e^{2y}}$ .

- Find a solution  $y = f(x)$  to the differential equation satisfying  $f(0) = \frac{1}{2}$ .
- Find the domain and range of the function  $f$  found in part (a).

**2001 SCORING GUIDELINES****Question 4**

Let  $h$  be a function defined for all  $x \neq 0$  such that  $h(4) = -3$  and the derivative of  $h$  is given by  $h'(x) = \frac{x^2 - 2}{x}$  for all  $x \neq 0$ .

- Find all values of  $x$  for which the graph of  $h$  has a horizontal tangent, and determine whether  $h$  has a local maximum, a local minimum, or neither at each of these values. Justify your answers.
- On what intervals, if any, is the graph of  $h$  concave up? Justify your answer.
- Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of  $h$  at  $x = 4$ .
- Does the line tangent to the graph of  $h$  at  $x = 4$  lie above or below the graph of  $h$  for  $x > 4$ ? Why?

**2001 SCORING GUIDELINES****Question 5**

A cubic polynomial function  $f$  is defined by

$$f(x) = 4x^3 + ax^2 + bx + k$$

where  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $k$  are constants. The function  $f$  has a local minimum at  $x = -1$ , and the graph of  $f$  has a point of inflection at  $x = -2$ .

- (a) Find the values of  $a$  and  $b$ .
- (b) If  $\int_0^1 f(x) dx = 32$ , what is the value of  $k$ ?

**2001 SCORING GUIDELINES****Question 6**

The function  $f$  is differentiable for all real numbers. The point  $\left(3, \frac{1}{4}\right)$  is on the graph of

$y = f(x)$ , and the slope at each point  $(x, y)$  on the graph is given by  $\frac{dy}{dx} = y^2(6 - 2x)$ .

- (a) Find  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  and evaluate it at the point  $\left(3, \frac{1}{4}\right)$ .
- (b) Find  $y = f(x)$  by solving the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = y^2(6 - 2x)$  with the initial condition  $f(3) = \frac{1}{4}$ .

**AP<sup>®</sup> CALCULUS AB 2002 SCORING GUIDELINES****Question 6**

$x$	-1.5	-1.0	-0.5	0	0.5	1.0	1.5
$f(x)$	-1	-4	-6	-7	-6	-4	-1
$f'(x)$	-7	-5	-3	0	3	5	7

Let  $f$  be a function that is differentiable for all real numbers. The table above gives the values of  $f$  and its derivative  $f'$  for selected points  $x$  in the closed interval  $-1.5 \leq x \leq 1.5$ . The second derivative of  $f$  has the property that  $f''(x) > 0$  for  $-1.5 \leq x \leq 1.5$ .

- (a) Evaluate  $\int_0^{1.5} (3f'(x) + 4) dx$ . Show the work that leads to your answer.
- (b) Write an equation of the line tangent to the graph of  $f$  at the point where  $x = 1$ . Use this line to approximate the value of  $f(1.2)$ . Is this approximation greater than or less than the actual value of  $f(1.2)$ ? Give a reason for your answer.
- (c) Find a positive real number  $r$  having the property that there must exist a value  $c$  with  $0 < c < 0.5$  and  $f''(c) = r$ . Give a reason for your answer.
- (d) Let  $g$  be the function given by  $g(x) = \begin{cases} 2x^2 - x - 7 & \text{for } x < 0 \\ 2x^2 + x - 7 & \text{for } x \geq 0. \end{cases}$

The graph of  $g$  passes through each of the points  $(x, f(x))$  given in the table above. Is it possible that  $f$  and  $g$  are the same function? Give a reason for your answer.

**2002 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)****Question 5**

Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{3-x}{y}$ .

- (a) Let  $y = f(x)$  be the particular solution to the given differential equation for  $1 < x < 5$  such that the line  $y = -2$  is tangent to the graph of  $f$ . Find the  $x$ -coordinate of the point of tangency, and determine whether  $f$  has a local maximum, local minimum, or neither at this point. Justify your answer.
- (b) Let  $y = g(x)$  be the particular solution to the given differential equation for  $-2 < x < 8$ , with the initial condition  $g(6) = -4$ . Find  $y = g(x)$ .

**2003 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)****Question 6**

Let  $f$  be the function satisfying  $f'(x) = x\sqrt{f(x)}$  for all real numbers  $x$ , where  $f(3) = 25$ .

- (a) Find  $f''(3)$ .
- (b) Write an expression for  $y = f(x)$  by solving the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = x\sqrt{y}$  with the initial condition  $f(3) = 25$ .

## 2004 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Question 4

Consider the curve given by  $x^2 + 4y^2 = 7 + 3xy$ .

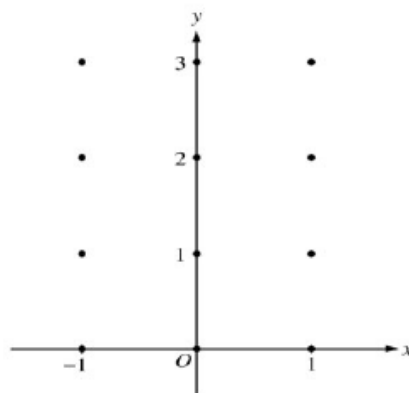
- (a) Show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{3y - 2x}{8y - 3x}$ .
- (b) Show that there is a point  $P$  with  $x$ -coordinate 3 at which the line tangent to the curve at  $P$  is horizontal. Find the  $y$ -coordinate of  $P$ .
- (c) Find the value of  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  at the point  $P$  found in part (b). Does the curve have a local maximum, a local minimum, or neither at the point  $P$ ? Justify your answer.

## 2004 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Question 6

Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = x^2(y - 1)$ .

- (a) On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation at the twelve points indicated.  
(Note: Use the axes provided in the pink test booklet.)
- (b) While the slope field in part (a) is drawn at only twelve points, it is defined at every point in the  $xy$ -plane. Describe all points in the  $xy$ -plane for which the slopes are positive.
- (c) Find the particular solution  $y = f(x)$  to the given differential equation with the initial condition  $f(0) = 3$ .

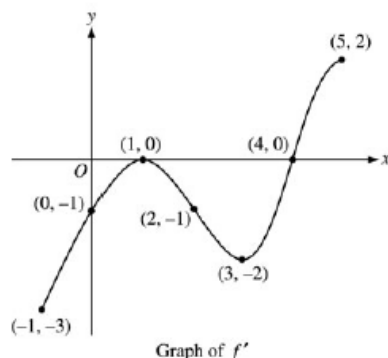


## 2004 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

## Question 4

The figure above shows the graph of  $f'$ , the derivative of the function  $f$ , on the closed interval  $-1 \leq x \leq 5$ . The graph of  $f'$  has horizontal tangent lines at  $x = 1$  and  $x = 3$ . The function  $f$  is twice differentiable with  $f(2) = 6$ .

- (a) Find the  $x$ -coordinate of each of the points of inflection of the graph of  $f$ . Give a reason for your answer.
- (b) At what value of  $x$  does  $f$  attain its absolute minimum value on the closed interval  $-1 \leq x \leq 5$ ? At what value of  $x$  does  $f$  attain its absolute maximum value on the closed interval  $-1 \leq x \leq 5$ ? Show the analysis that leads to your answers.
- (c) Let  $g$  be the function defined by  $g(x) = xf(x)$ . Find an equation for the line tangent to the graph of  $g$  at  $x = 2$ .

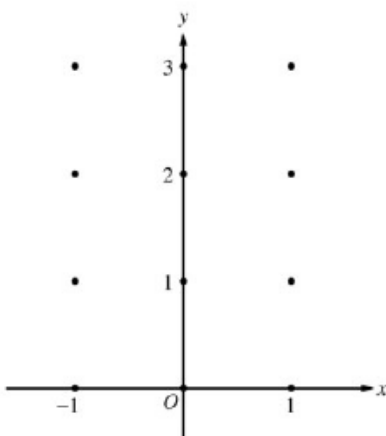


## 2004 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

## Question 5

Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = x^4(y - 2)$ .

- On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation at the twelve points indicated.  
(Note: Use the axes provided in the test booklet.)
- While the slope field in part (a) is drawn at only twelve points, it is defined at every point in the  $xy$ -plane. Describe all points in the  $xy$ -plane for which the slopes are negative.
- Find the particular solution  $y = f(x)$  to the given differential equation with the initial condition  $f(0) = 0$ .

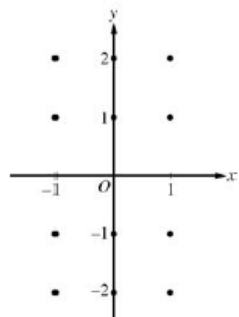


## 2005 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Question 6

Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{2x}{y}$ .

- On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation at the twelve points indicated.  
(Note: Use the axes provided in the pink test booklet.)
- Let  $y = f(x)$  be the particular solution to the differential equation with the initial condition  $f(1) = -1$ . Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of  $f$  at  $(1, -1)$  and use it to approximate  $f(1.1)$ .
- Find the particular solution  $y = f(x)$  to the given differential equation with the initial condition  $f(1) = -1$ .



## 2005 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

## Question 5

Consider the curve given by  $y^2 = 2 + xy$ .

- Show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y}{2y-x}$ .
- Find all points  $(x, y)$  on the curve where the line tangent to the curve has slope  $\frac{1}{2}$ .
- Show that there are no points  $(x, y)$  on the curve where the line tangent to the curve is horizontal.
- Let  $x$  and  $y$  be functions of time  $t$  that are related by the equation  $y^2 = 2 + xy$ . At time  $t = 5$ , the value of  $y$  is 3 and  $\frac{dy}{dt} = 6$ . Find the value of  $\frac{dx}{dt}$  at time  $t = 5$ .

## 2005 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

## Question 6

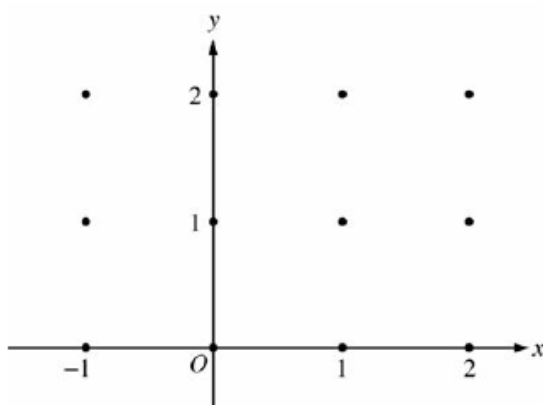
Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-xy^2}{2}$ . Let

$y = f(x)$  be the particular solution to this differential equation with the initial condition  $f(-1) = 2$ .

- On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation at the twelve points indicated.

(Note: Use the axes provided in the test booklet.)

- Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of  $f$  at  $x = -1$ .



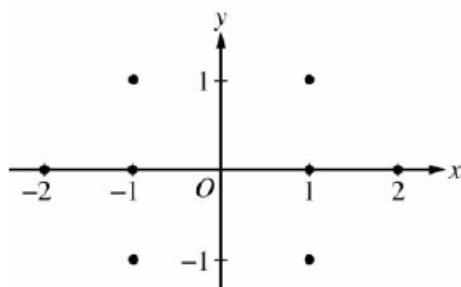
- Find the solution  $y = f(x)$  to the given differential equation with the initial condition  $f(-1) = 2$ .

## 2006 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Question 5

Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1+y}{x}$ , where  $x \neq 0$ .

- (a) On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation at the eight points indicated.  
(Note: Use the axes provided in the pink exam booklet.)



- (b) Find the particular solution  $y = f(x)$  to the differential equation with the initial condition  $f(-1) = 1$  and state its domain.

## 2006 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Question 6

The twice-differentiable function  $f$  is defined for all real numbers and satisfies the following conditions:

$$f(0) = 2, \quad f'(0) = -4, \quad \text{and} \quad f''(0) = 3.$$

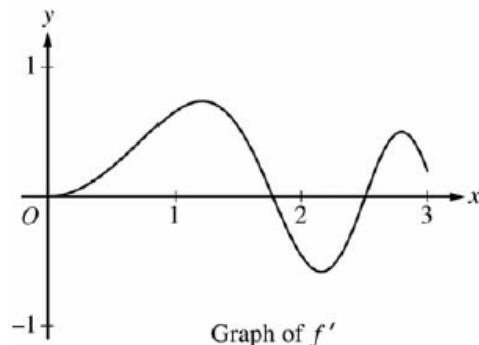
- (a) The function  $g$  is given by  $g(x) = e^{ax} + f(x)$  for all real numbers, where  $a$  is a constant. Find  $g'(0)$  and  $g''(0)$  in terms of  $a$ . Show the work that leads to your answers.
- (b) The function  $h$  is given by  $h(x) = \cos(kx)f(x)$  for all real numbers, where  $k$  is a constant. Find  $h'(x)$  and write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of  $h$  at  $x = 0$ .

## 2006 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

## Question 2

Let  $f$  be the function defined for  $x \geq 0$  with  $f(0) = 5$  and  $f'$ , the first derivative of  $f$ , given by  $f'(x) = e^{(-x/4)} \sin(x^2)$ . The graph of  $y = f'(x)$  is shown above.

- (a) Use the graph of  $f'$  to determine whether the graph of  $f$  is concave up, concave down, or neither on the interval  $1.7 < x < 1.9$ . Explain your reasoning.
- (b) On the interval  $0 \leq x \leq 3$ , find the value of  $x$  at which  $f$  has an absolute maximum. Justify your answer.
- (c) Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of  $f$  at  $x = 2$ .

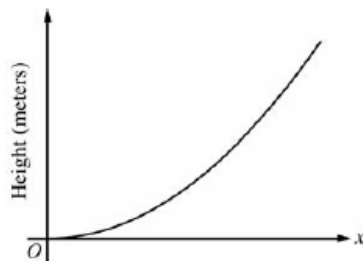




## 2006 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

## Question 3

The figure above is the graph of a function of  $x$ , which models the height of a skateboard ramp. The function meets the following requirements.



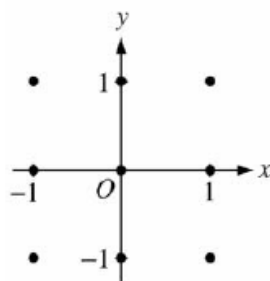
- (i) At  $x = 0$ , the value of the function is 0, and the slope of the graph of the function is 0.
  - (ii) At  $x = 4$ , the value of the function is 1, and the slope of the graph of the function is 1.
  - (iii) Between  $x = 0$  and  $x = 4$ , the function is increasing.
- (a) Let  $f(x) = ax^2$ , where  $a$  is a nonzero constant. Show that it is not possible to find a value for  $a$  so that  $f$  meets requirement (ii) above.
- (b) Let  $g(x) = cx^3 - \frac{x^2}{16}$ , where  $c$  is a nonzero constant. Find the value of  $c$  so that  $g$  meets requirement (ii) above. Show the work that leads to your answer.
- (c) Using the function  $g$  and your value of  $c$  from part (b), show that  $g$  does not meet requirement (iii) above.
- (d) Let  $h(x) = \frac{x^n}{k}$ , where  $k$  is a nonzero constant and  $n$  is a positive integer. Find the values of  $k$  and  $n$  so that  $h$  meets requirement (ii) above. Show that  $h$  also meets requirements (i) and (iii) above.

## 2006 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

## Question 5

Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = (y-1)^2 \cos(\pi x)$ .

- (a) On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation at the nine points indicated. (Note: Use the axes provided in the exam booklet.)



- (b) There is a horizontal line with equation  $y = c$  that satisfies this differential equation. Find the value of  $c$ .
- (c) Find the particular solution  $y = f(x)$  to the differential equation with the initial condition  $f(1) = 0$ .



## 2007 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Question 4

A particle moves along the  $x$ -axis with position at time  $t$  given by  $x(t) = e^{-t} \sin t$  for  $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$ .

- Find the time  $t$  at which the particle is farthest to the left. Justify your answer.
- Find the value of the constant  $A$  for which  $x(t)$  satisfies the equation  $Ax''(t) + x'(t) + x(t) = 0$  for  $0 < t < 2\pi$ .

## 2007 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Question 6

Let  $f$  be the function defined by  $f(x) = k\sqrt{x} - \ln x$  for  $x > 0$ , where  $k$  is a positive constant.

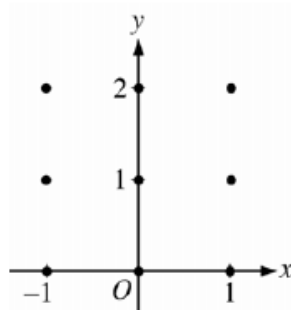
- Find  $f'(x)$  and  $f''(x)$ .
- For what value of the constant  $k$  does  $f$  have a critical point at  $x = 1$ ? For this value of  $k$ , determine whether  $f$  has a relative minimum, relative maximum, or neither at  $x = 1$ . Justify your answer.
- For a certain value of the constant  $k$ , the graph of  $f$  has a point of inflection on the  $x$ -axis. Find this value of  $k$ .

## 2007 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

## Question 5

Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2}x + y - 1$ .

- On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation at the nine points indicated.  
(Note: Use the axes provided in the exam booklet.)
- Find  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  in terms of  $x$  and  $y$ . Describe the region in the  $xy$ -plane in which all solution curves to the differential equation are concave up.
- Let  $y = f(x)$  be a particular solution to the differential equation with the initial condition  $f(0) = 1$ . Does  $f$  have a relative minimum, a relative maximum, or neither at  $x = 0$ ? Justify your answer.
- Find the values of the constants  $m$  and  $b$ , for which  $y = mx + b$  is a solution to the differential equation.



## 2007 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

## Question 6

Let  $f$  be a twice-differentiable function such that  $f(2) = 5$  and  $f(5) = 2$ . Let  $g$  be the function given by  $g(x) = f(f(x))$ .

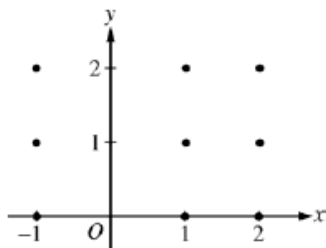
- Explain why there must be a value  $c$  for  $2 < c < 5$  such that  $f'(c) = -1$ .
- Show that  $g'(2) = g'(5)$ . Use this result to explain why there must be a value  $k$  for  $2 < k < 5$  such that  $g''(k) = 0$ .
- Show that if  $f''(x) = 0$  for all  $x$ , then the graph of  $g$  does not have a point of inflection.
- Let  $h(x) = f(x) - x$ . Explain why there must be a value  $r$  for  $2 < r < 5$  such that  $h(r) = 0$ .

## 2008 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Question 5

Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y-1}{x^2}$ , where  $x \neq 0$ .

- On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation at the nine points indicated.  
(Note: Use the axes provided in the exam booklet.)
- Find the particular solution  $y = f(x)$  to the differential equation with the initial condition  $f(2) = 0$ .
- For the particular solution  $y = f(x)$  described in part (b), find  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)$ .



## 2008 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Question 6

Let  $f$  be the function given by  $f(x) = \frac{\ln x}{x}$  for all  $x > 0$ . The derivative of  $f$  is given by

$$f'(x) = \frac{1 - \ln x}{x^2}.$$

- Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of  $f$  at  $x = e^2$ .
- Find the  $x$ -coordinate of the critical point of  $f$ . Determine whether this point is a relative minimum, a relative maximum, or neither for the function  $f$ . Justify your answer.
- The graph of the function  $f$  has exactly one point of inflection. Find the  $x$ -coordinate of this point.
- Find  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x)$ .

## 2008 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

## Question 4

The functions  $f$  and  $g$  are given by  $f(x) = \int_0^{3x} \sqrt{4+t^2} dt$  and  $g(x) = f(\sin x)$ .

- Find  $f'(x)$  and  $g'(x)$ .
- Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of  $y = g(x)$  at  $x = \pi$ .
- Write, but do not evaluate, an integral expression that represents the maximum value of  $g$  on the interval  $0 \leq x \leq \pi$ . Justify your answer.

## 2008 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

## Question 6

Consider the closed curve in the  $xy$ -plane given by

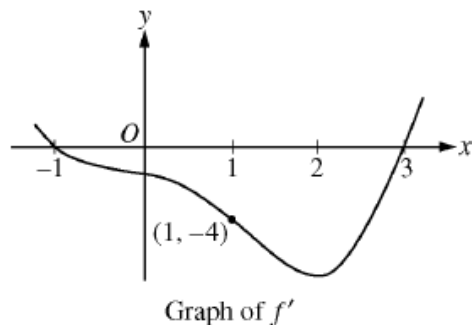
$$x^2 + 2x + y^4 + 4y = 5.$$

- Show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-(x+1)}{2(y^3+1)}$ .
- Write an equation for the line tangent to the curve at the point  $(-2, 1)$ .
- Find the coordinates of the two points on the curve where the line tangent to the curve is vertical.
- Is it possible for this curve to have a horizontal tangent at points where it intersects the  $x$ -axis? Explain your reasoning.

## 2009 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

## Question 5

Let  $f$  be a twice-differentiable function defined on the interval  $-1.2 < x < 3.2$  with  $f(1) = 2$ . The graph of  $f'$ , the derivative of  $f$ , is shown above. The graph of  $f'$  crosses the  $x$ -axis at  $x = -1$  and  $x = 3$  and has a horizontal tangent at  $x = 2$ . Let  $g$  be the function given by  $g(x) = e^{f(x)}$ .



## 2010 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Question 6

Solutions to the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = xy^3$  also satisfy  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = y^3(1 + 3x^2y^2)$ . Let  $y = f(x)$  be a particular solution to the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = xy^3$  with  $f(1) = 2$ .

- Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of  $y = f(x)$  at  $x = 1$ .
- Use the tangent line equation from part (a) to approximate  $f(1.1)$ . Given that  $f(x) > 0$  for  $1 < x < 1.1$ , is the approximation for  $f(1.1)$  greater than or less than  $f(1.1)$ ? Explain your reasoning.
- Find the particular solution  $y = f(x)$  with initial condition  $f(1) = 2$ .

## 2010 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

## Question 2

The function  $g$  is defined for  $x > 0$  with  $g(1) = 2$ ,  $g'(x) = \sin\left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)$ , and  $g''(x) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{x^2}\right)\cos\left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)$ .

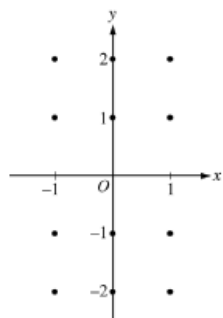
- Find all values of  $x$  in the interval  $0.12 \leq x \leq 1$  at which the graph of  $g$  has a horizontal tangent line.
- On what subintervals of  $(0.12, 1)$ , if any, is the graph of  $g$  concave down? Justify your answer.
- Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of  $g$  at  $x = 0.3$ .
- Does the line tangent to the graph of  $g$  at  $x = 0.3$  lie above or below the graph of  $g$  for  $0.3 < x < 1$ ? Why?

## 2010 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

## Question 5

Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x+1}{y}$ .

- On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation at the twelve points indicated, and for  $-1 < x < 1$ , sketch the solution curve that passes through the point  $(0, -1)$ .  
(Note: Use the axes provided in the exam booklet.)
- While the slope field in part (a) is drawn at only twelve points, it is defined at every point in the  $xy$ -plane for which  $y \neq 0$ . Describe all points in the  $xy$ -plane,  $y \neq 0$ , for which  $\frac{dy}{dx} = -1$ .
- Find the particular solution  $y = f(x)$  to the given differential equation with the initial condition  $f(0) = -2$ .



## 2011 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Question 5

At the beginning of 2010, a landfill contained 1400 tons of solid waste. The increasing function  $W$  models the total amount of solid waste stored at the landfill. Planners estimate that  $W$  will satisfy the differential equation  $\frac{dW}{dt} = \frac{1}{25}(W - 300)$  for the next 20 years.  $W$  is measured in tons, and  $t$  is measured in years from the start of 2010.

- Use the line tangent to the graph of  $W$  at  $t = 0$  to approximate the amount of solid waste that the landfill contains at the end of the first 3 months of 2010 (time  $t = \frac{1}{4}$ ).
- Find  $\frac{d^2W}{dt^2}$  in terms of  $W$ . Use  $\frac{d^2W}{dt^2}$  to determine whether your answer in part (a) is an underestimate or an overestimate of the amount of solid waste that the landfill contains at time  $t = \frac{1}{4}$ .
- Find the particular solution  $W = W(t)$  to the differential equation  $\frac{dW}{dt} = \frac{1}{25}(W - 300)$  with initial condition  $W(0) = 1400$ .

## 2011 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)

## Question 4

Consider a differentiable function  $f$  having domain all positive real numbers, and for which it is known that  $f'(x) = (4 - x)x^{-3}$  for  $x > 0$ .

- Find the  $x$ -coordinate of the critical point of  $f$ . Determine whether the point is a relative maximum, a relative minimum, or neither for the function  $f$ . Justify your answer.
- Find all intervals on which the graph of  $f$  is concave down. Justify your answer.
- Given that  $f(1) = 2$ , determine the function  $f$ .

## 2012 SCORING GUIDELINES

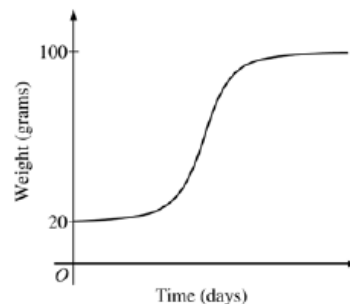
## Question 5

The rate at which a baby bird gains weight is proportional to the difference between its adult weight and its current weight. At time  $t = 0$ , when the bird is first weighed, its weight is 20 grams. If  $B(t)$  is the weight of the bird, in grams, at time  $t$  days after it is first weighed, then

$$\frac{dB}{dt} = \frac{1}{5}(100 - B).$$

Let  $y = B(t)$  be the solution to the differential equation above with initial condition  $B(0) = 20$ .

- Is the bird gaining weight faster when it weighs 40 grams or when it weighs 70 grams? Explain your reasoning.
- Find  $\frac{d^2B}{dt^2}$  in terms of  $B$ . Use  $\frac{d^2B}{dt^2}$  to explain why the graph of  $B$  cannot resemble the following graph.
- Use separation of variables to find  $y = B(t)$ , the particular solution to the differential equation with initial condition  $B(0) = 20$ .



2013 AB

- Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = e^y(3x^2 - 6x)$ . Let  $y = f(x)$  be the particular solution to the differential equation that passes through  $(1, 0)$ .
  - Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of  $f$  at the point  $(1, 0)$ . Use the tangent line to approximate  $f(1.2)$ .
  - Find  $y = f(x)$ , the particular solution to the differential equation that passes through  $(1, 0)$ .



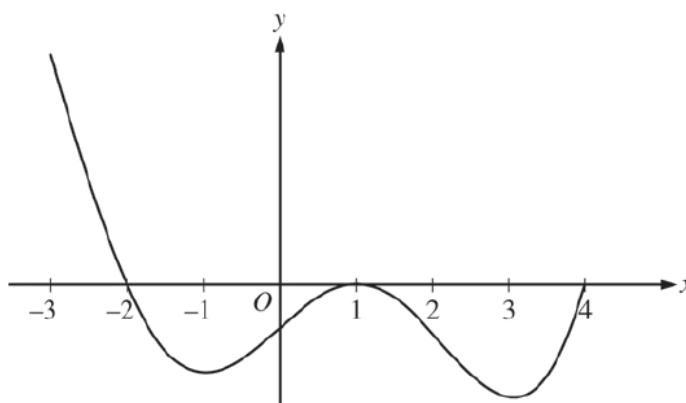
2014 AB # 5

$x$	-2	$-2 < x < -1$	-1	$-1 < x < 1$	1	$1 < x < 3$	3
$f(x)$	12	Positive	8	Positive	2	Positive	7
$f'(x)$	-5	Negative	0	Negative	0	Positive	$\frac{1}{2}$
$g(x)$	-1	Negative	0	Positive	3	Positive	1
$g'(x)$	2	Positive	$\frac{3}{2}$	Positive	0	Negative	-2

5. The twice-differentiable functions  $f$  and  $g$  are defined for all real numbers  $x$ . Values of  $f$ ,  $f'$ ,  $g$ , and  $g'$  for various values of  $x$  are given in the table above.

- Find the  $x$ -coordinate of each relative minimum of  $f$  on the interval  $[-2, 3]$ . Justify your answers.
- Explain why there must be a value  $c$ , for  $-1 < c < 1$ , such that  $f''(c) = 0$ .
- The function  $h$  is defined by  $h(x) = \ln(f(x))$ . Find  $h'(3)$ . Show the computations that lead to your answer.
- Evaluate  $\int_{-2}^3 f'(g(x))g'(x) dx$ .

2015 # 5 No Calculator Permitted

Graph of  $f'$ 

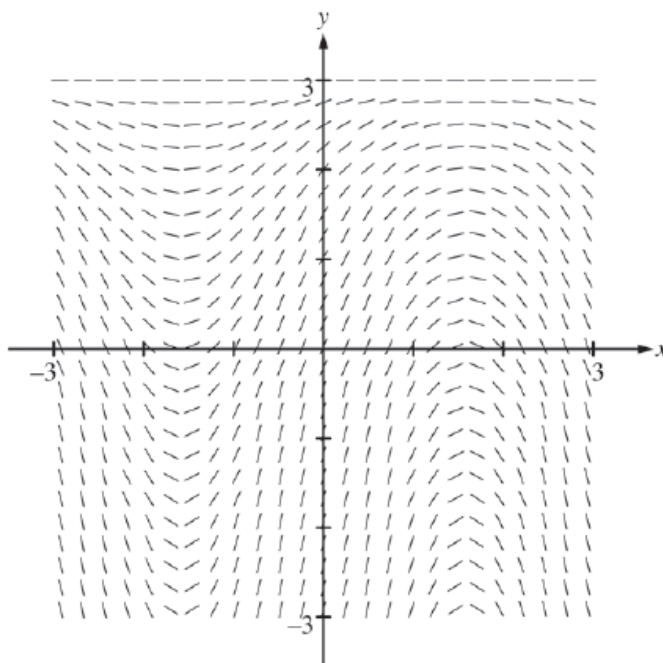
5. The figure above shows the graph of  $f'$ , the derivative of a twice-differentiable function  $f$ , on the interval  $[-3, 4]$ . The graph of  $f'$  has horizontal tangents at  $x = -1$ ,  $x = 1$ , and  $x = 3$ . The areas of the regions bounded by the  $x$ -axis and the graph of  $f'$  on the intervals  $[-2, 1]$  and  $[1, 4]$  are 9 and 12, respectively.
- Find all  $x$ -coordinates at which  $f$  has a relative maximum. Give a reason for your answer.
  - On what open intervals contained in  $-3 < x < 4$  is the graph of  $f$  both concave down and decreasing? Give a reason for your answer.
  - Find the  $x$ -coordinates of all points of inflection for the graph of  $f$ . Give a reason for your answer.
  - Given that  $f(1) = 3$ , write an expression for  $f(x)$  that involves an integral. Find  $f(4)$  and  $f(-2)$ .

# Differential Equations Released AP Questions

2014 AB #6

6. Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = (3 - y)\cos x$ . Let  $y = f(x)$  be the particular solution to the differential equation with the initial condition  $f(0) = 1$ . The function  $f$  is defined for all real numbers.

- (a) A portion of the slope field of the differential equation is given below. Sketch the solution curve through the point  $(0, 1)$ .

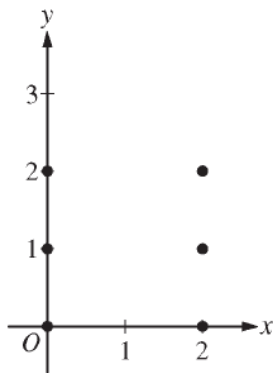


- (b) Write an equation for the line tangent to the solution curve in part (a) at the point  $(0, 1)$ . Use the equation to approximate  $f(0.2)$ .
- (c) Find  $y = f(x)$ , the particular solution to the differential equation with the initial condition  $f(0) = 1$ .

**2016 AP<sup>®</sup> CALCULUS AB FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

4. Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y^2}{x-1}$ .

(a) On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation at the six points indicated.



(b) Let  $y = f(x)$  be the particular solution to the given differential equation with the initial condition  $f(2) = 3$ . Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of  $y = f(x)$  at  $x = 2$ .

Use your equation to approximate  $f(2.1)$ .

(c) Find the particular solution  $y = f(x)$  to the given differential equation with the initial condition  $f(2) = 3$ .

## Differential Equations Released AP Questions

### AP Calculus AB 2017 No Calculator Permitted

4. At time  $t = 0$ , a boiled potato is taken from a pot on a stove and left to cool in a kitchen. The internal

temperature of the potato is 91 degrees Celsius ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) at time  $t = 0$ , and the internal temperature of the potato is greater than  $27^{\circ}\text{C}$  for all times  $t > 0$ . The internal temperature of the potato at time  $t$  minutes can be modeled by the function  $H$  that satisfies the differential equation  $\frac{dH}{dt} = -\frac{1}{4}(H - 27)$ , where  $H(t)$  is measured in degrees Celsius and  $H(0) = 91$ .

- (a) Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of  $H$  at  $t = 0$ . Use this equation to approximate the internal temperature of the potato at time  $t = 3$ .

- (b) Use  $\frac{d^2H}{dt^2}$  to determine whether your answer in part (a) is an underestimate or an overestimate of the internal temperature of the potato at time  $t = 3$ .

- (c) For  $t < 10$ , an alternate model for the internal temperature of the potato at time  $t$  minutes is the function

$G$  that satisfies the differential equation  $\frac{dG}{dt} = -(G - 27)^{2/3}$ , where  $G(t)$  is measured in degrees Celsius and  $G(0) = 91$ . Find an expression for  $G(t)$ . Based on this model, what is the internal temperature of the potato at time  $t = 3$  ?

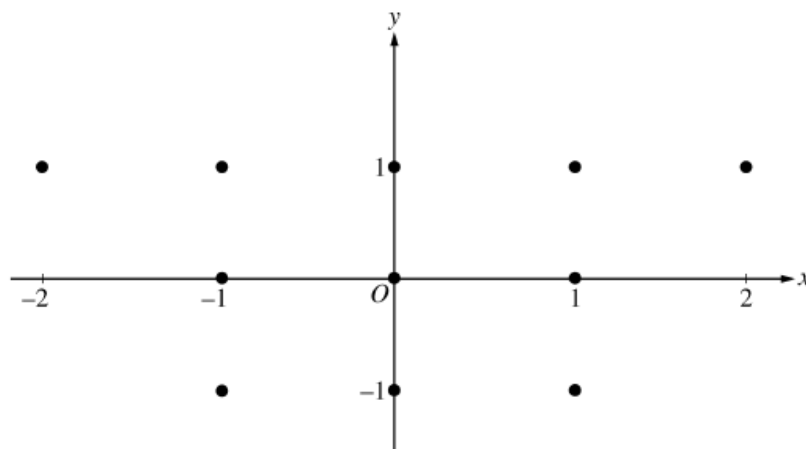
## Released BC Questions

2000 BC # 6

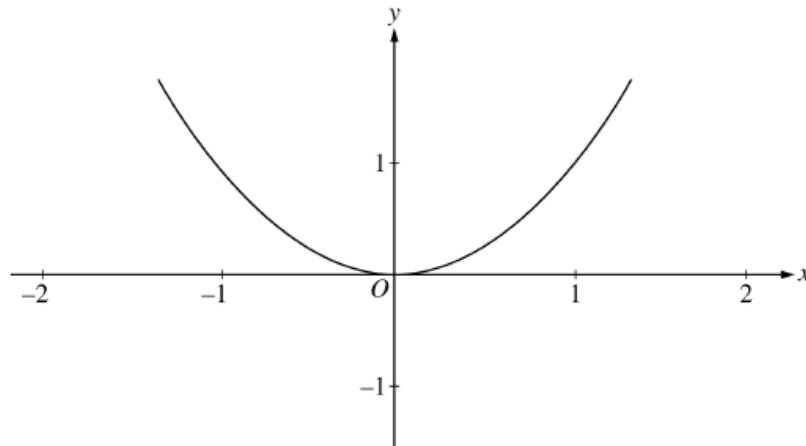
6. Consider the differential equation given by  $\frac{dy}{dx} = x(y - 1)^2$ .

(a) On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation at the eleven points indicated.

(Note: Use the axes provided in the pink test booklet.)



(b) Use the slope field for the given differential equation to explain why a solution could not have the graph shown below.



(c) Find the particular solution  $y = f(x)$  to the given differential equation with the initial condition  $f(0) = -1$ .

(d) Find the range of the solution found in part (c).

**2001 SCORING GUIDELINES****Question 5**

Let  $f$  be the function satisfying  $f'(x) = -3xf(x)$ , for all real numbers  $x$ , with  $f(1) = 4$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = 0$ .

- (a) Evaluate  $\int_1^{\infty} -3xf(x)dx$ . Show the work that leads to your answer.
- (b) Use Euler's method, starting at  $x = 1$  with a step size of 0.5, to approximate  $f(2)$ .
- (c) Write an expression for  $y = f(x)$  by solving the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = -3xy$  with the initial condition  $f(1) = 4$ .

2002 Form B #5

5. Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{3-x}{y}$ .

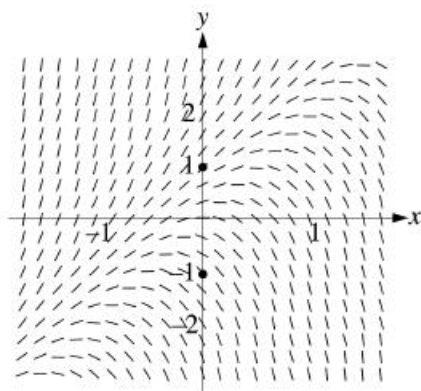
- (a) Let  $y = f(x)$  be the particular solution to the given differential equation for  $1 < x < 5$  such that the line  $y = -2$  is tangent to the graph of  $f$ . Find the  $x$ -coordinate of the point of tangency, and determine whether  $f$  has a local maximum, local minimum, or neither at this point. Justify your answer.
- (b) Let  $y = g(x)$  be the particular solution to the given differential equation for  $-2 < x < 8$ , with the initial condition  $g(6) = -4$ . Find  $y = g(x)$ .



2002 AP<sup>®</sup> CALCULUS BC FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

5. Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2y - 4x$ .

- (a) The slope field for the given differential equation is provided. Sketch the solution curve that passes through the point  $(0, 1)$  and sketch the solution curve that passes through the point  $(0, -1)$ .  
(Note: Use the slope field provided in the pink test booklet.)



- (b) Let  $f$  be the function that satisfies the given differential equation with the initial condition  $f(0) = 1$ . Use Euler's method, starting at  $x = 0$  with a step size of 0.1, to approximate  $f(0.2)$ . Show the work that leads to your answer.
- (c) Find the value of  $b$  for which  $y = 2x + b$  is a solution to the given differential equation. Justify your answer.
- (d) Let  $g$  be the function that satisfies the given differential equation with the initial condition  $g(0) = 0$ . Does the graph of  $g$  have a local extremum at the point  $(0, 0)$ ? If so, is the point a local maximum or a local minimum? Justify your answer.

## 2004 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Question 5

A population is modeled by a function  $P$  that satisfies the logistic differential equation

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = \frac{P}{5} \left( 1 - \frac{P}{12} \right).$$

- (a) If  $P(0) = 3$ , what is  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(t)$ ?

If  $P(0) = 20$ , what is  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(t)$ ?

- (b) If  $P(0) = 3$ , for what value of  $P$  is the population growing the fastest?

- (c) A different population is modeled by a function  $Y$  that satisfies the separable differential equation

$$\frac{dY}{dt} = \frac{Y}{5} \left( 1 - \frac{t}{12} \right).$$

Find  $Y(t)$  if  $Y(0) = 3$ .

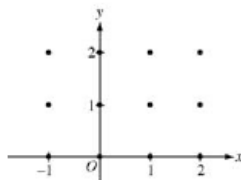
- (d) For the function  $Y$  found in part (c), what is  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} Y(t)$ ?

## 2005 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Question 4

Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x - y$ .

- (a) On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation at the twelve points indicated, and sketch the solution curve that passes through the point  $(0, 1)$ . (Note: Use the axes provided in the pink test booklet.)



- (b) The solution curve that passes through the point  $(0, 1)$  has a local minimum at  $x = \ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)$ . What is the  $y$ -coordinate of this local minimum?
- (c) Let  $y = f(x)$  be the particular solution to the given differential equation with the initial condition  $f(0) = 1$ . Use Euler's method, starting at  $x = 0$  with two steps of equal size, to approximate  $f(-0.4)$ . Show the work that leads to your answer.
- (d) Find  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  in terms of  $x$  and  $y$ . Determine whether the approximation found in part (c) is less than or greater than  $f(-0.4)$ . Explain your reasoning.

## 2006 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Question 5

Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 5x^2 - \frac{6}{y-2}$  for  $y \neq 2$ . Let  $y = f(x)$  be the particular solution to this differential equation with the initial condition  $f(-1) = -4$ .

- (a) Evaluate  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  and  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  at  $(-1, -4)$ .
- (b) Is it possible for the  $x$ -axis to be tangent to the graph of  $f$  at some point? Explain why or why not.
- (c) Find the second-degree Taylor polynomial for  $f$  about  $x = -1$ .
- (d) Use Euler's method, starting at  $x = -1$  with two steps of equal size, to approximate  $f(0)$ . Show the work that leads to your answer.

**2006 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)****Question 5**

Let  $f$  be a function with  $f(4) = 1$  such that all points  $(x, y)$  on the graph of  $f$  satisfy the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 2y(3 - x).$$

Let  $g$  be a function with  $g(4) = 1$  such that all points  $(x, y)$  on the graph of  $g$  satisfy the logistic differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 2y(3 - y).$$

- Find  $y = f(x)$ .
- Given that  $g(4) = 1$ , find  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g(x)$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g'(x)$ . (It is not necessary to solve for  $g(x)$  or to show how you arrived at your answers.)
- For what value of  $y$  does the graph of  $g$  have a point of inflection? Find the slope of the graph of  $g$  at the point of inflection. (It is not necessary to solve for  $g(x)$ .)

**2007 SCORING GUIDELINES****Question 4**

Let  $f$  be the function defined for  $x > 0$ , with  $f(e) = 2$  and  $f'$ , the first derivative of  $f$ , given by  $f'(x) = x^2 \ln x$ .

- Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of  $f$  at the point  $(e, 2)$ .
- Is the graph of  $f$  concave up or concave down on the interval  $1 < x < 3$ ? Give a reason for your answer.
- Use antidifferentiation to find  $f(x)$ .

**2007 SCORING GUIDELINES (Form B)****Question 5**

Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x + 2y + 1$ .

- Find  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  in terms of  $x$  and  $y$ .
- Find the values of the constants  $m$ ,  $b$ , and  $r$  for which  $y = mx + b + e^{rx}$  is a solution to the differential equation.
- Let  $y = f(x)$  be a particular solution to the differential equation with the initial condition  $f(0) = -2$ . Use Euler's method, starting at  $x = 0$  with a step size of  $\frac{1}{2}$ , to approximate  $f(1)$ . Show the work that leads to your answer.
- Let  $y = g(x)$  be another solution to the differential equation with the initial condition  $g(0) = k$ , where  $k$  is a constant. Euler's method, starting at  $x = 0$  with a step size of 1, gives the approximation  $g(1) \approx 0$ . Find the value of  $k$ .

## 2008 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Question 5

The derivative of a function  $f$  is given by  $f'(x) = (x - 3)e^x$  for  $x > 0$ , and  $f(1) = 7$ .

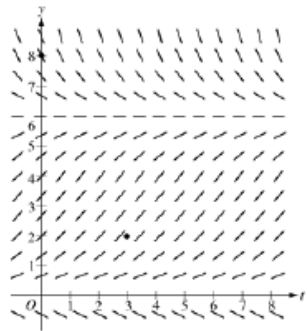
- The function  $f$  has a critical point at  $x = 3$ . At this point, does  $f$  have a relative minimum, a relative maximum, or neither? Justify your answer.
- On what intervals, if any, is the graph of  $f$  both decreasing and concave up? Explain your reasoning.
- Find the value of  $f(3)$ .

## 2008 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Question 6

Consider the logistic differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{y}{8}(6 - y)$ . Let  $y = f(t)$  be the particular solution to the differential equation with  $f(0) = 8$ .

- A slope field for this differential equation is given below. Sketch possible solution curves through the points  $(3, 2)$  and  $(0, 8)$ .  
(Note: Use the axes provided in the exam booklet.)
- Use Euler's method, starting at  $t = 0$  with two steps of equal size, to approximate  $f(1)$ .
- Write the second-degree Taylor polynomial for  $f$  about  $t = 0$ , and use it to approximate  $f(1)$ .
- What is the range of  $f$  for  $t \geq 0$ ?



## 2009 SCORING GUIDELINES

## Question 4

Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 6x^2 - x^2y$ . Let  $y = f(x)$  be a particular solution to this differential equation with the initial condition  $f(-1) = 2$ .

- Use Euler's method with two steps of equal size, starting at  $x = -1$ , to approximate  $f(0)$ . Show the work that leads to your answer.
- At the point  $(-1, 2)$ , the value of  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  is  $-12$ . Find the second-degree Taylor polynomial for  $f$  about  $x = -1$ .
- Find the particular solution  $y = f(x)$  to the given differential equation with the initial condition  $f(-1) = 2$ .

**2010 SCORING GUIDELINES****Question 5**

Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 1 - y$ . Let  $y = f(x)$  be the particular solution to this differential equation with the initial condition  $f(1) = 0$ . For this particular solution,  $f(x) < 1$  for all values of  $x$ .

- (a) Use Euler's method, starting at  $x = 1$  with two steps of equal size, to approximate  $f(0)$ . Show the work that leads to your answer.
- (b) Find  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{f(x)}{x^3 - 1}$ . Show the work that leads to your answer.
- (c) Find the particular solution  $y = f(x)$  to the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 1 - y$  with the initial condition  $f(1) = 0$ .

**2013 AP<sup>®</sup> CALCULUS BC FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

5. Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = y^2(2x + 2)$ . Let  $y = f(x)$  be the particular solution to the differential equation with initial condition  $f(0) = -1$ .

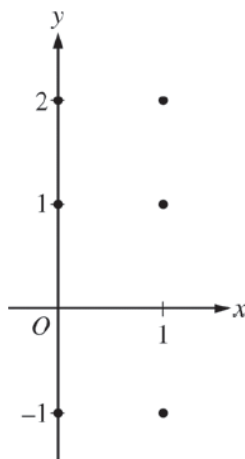
- (a) Find  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x) + 1}{\sin x}$ . Show the work that leads to your answer.
- (b) Use Euler's method, starting at  $x = 0$  with two steps of equal size, to approximate  $f\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$ .
- (c) Find  $y = f(x)$ , the particular solution to the differential equation with initial condition  $f(0) = -1$ .

## Differential Equations Released AP Questions

### 2015 #4 No Calculator Permitted

4. Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x - y$ .

(a) On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation at the six points indicated.



(b) Find  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  in terms of  $x$  and  $y$ . Determine the concavity of all solution curves for the given differential equation in Quadrant II. Give a reason for your answer.

(c) Let  $y = f(x)$  be the particular solution to the differential equation with the initial condition  $f(2) = 3$ . Does  $f$  have a relative minimum, a relative maximum, or neither at  $x = 2$ ? Justify your answer.

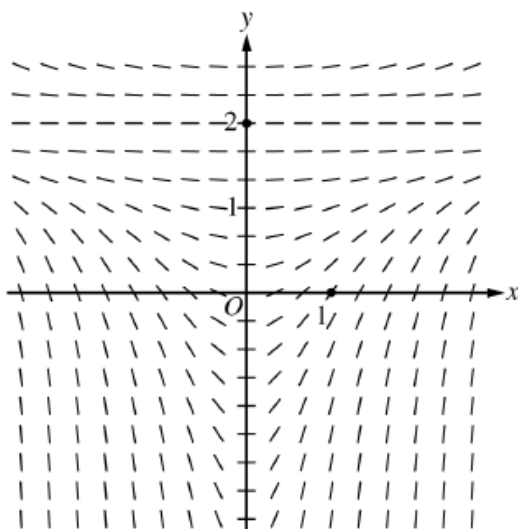
(d) Find the values of the constants  $m$  and  $b$  for which  $y = mx + b$  is a solution to the differential equation.



## 2018 No Calculator

6. Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{3}x(y - 2)^2$ .

- (a) A slope field for the given differential equation is shown below. Sketch the solution curve that passes through the point  $(0, 2)$ , and sketch the solution curve that passes through the point  $(1, 0)$ .



- (b) Let  $y = f(x)$  be the particular solution to the given differential equation with initial condition  $f(1) = 0$ . Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of  $y = f(x)$  at  $x = 1$ . Use your equation to approximate  $f(0.7)$ .
- (c) Find the particular solution  $y = f(x)$  to the given differential equation with initial condition  $f(1) = 0$ .

## Differential Equations Released AP Questions

BC 2015 #5 No Calculator Permitted. REQUIRES PARTIAL FRACTIONS!!

Do not attempt in AB!!!

5. Consider the function  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 - kx}$ , where  $k$  is a nonzero constant. The derivative of  $f$  is given by

$$f'(x) = \frac{k - 2x}{(x^2 - kx)^2}.$$

- (a) Let  $k = 3$ , so that  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 - 3x}$ . Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of  $f$  at the point whose  $x$ -coordinate is 4.

- (b) Let  $k = 4$ , so that  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 - 4x}$ . Determine whether  $f$  has a relative minimum, a relative maximum, or neither at  $x = 2$ . Justify your answer.

- (c) Find the value of  $k$  for which  $f$  has a critical point at  $x = -5$ .

- (d) Let  $k = 6$ , so that  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 - 6x}$ . Find the partial fraction decomposition for the function  $f$ .

Find  $\int f(x) dx$ .

### 2018 No Calculator

4. At time  $t = 0$ , a boiled potato is taken from a pot on a stove and left to cool in a kitchen. The internal

temperature of the potato is 91 degrees Celsius ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) at time  $t = 0$ , and the internal temperature of the potato

is greater than  $27^{\circ}\text{C}$  for all times  $t > 0$ . The internal temperature of the potato at time  $t$  minutes can be

modeled by the function  $H$  that satisfies the differential equation  $\frac{dH}{dt} = -\frac{1}{4}(H - 27)$ , where  $H(t)$  is

measured in degrees Celsius and  $H(0) = 91$ .

- (a) Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of  $H$  at  $t = 0$ . Use this equation to approximate the internal temperature of the potato at time  $t = 3$ .

- (b) Use  $\frac{d^2H}{dt^2}$  to determine whether your answer in part (a) is an underestimate or an overestimate of the internal temperature of the potato at time  $t = 3$ .

- (c) For  $t < 10$ , an alternate model for the internal temperature of the potato at time  $t$  minutes is the function

$G$  that satisfies the differential equation  $\frac{dG}{dt} = -(G - 27)^{2/3}$ , where  $G(t)$  is measured in degrees Celsius

and  $G(0) = 91$ . Find an expression for  $G(t)$ . Based on this model, what is the internal temperature of the potato at time  $t = 3$  ?

2016 BC #6 No Calculator Permitted

**2016 SCORING GUIDELINES**

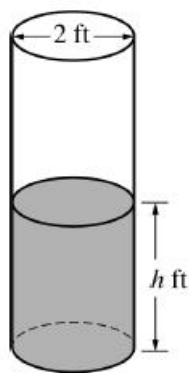
**Question 4**

Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = x^2 - \frac{1}{2}y$ .

- (a) Find  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  in terms of  $x$  and  $y$ .
- (b) Let  $y = f(x)$  be the particular solution to the given differential equation whose graph passes through the point  $(-2, 8)$ . Does the graph of  $f$  have a relative minimum, a relative maximum, or neither at the point  $(-2, 8)$ ? Justify your answer.
- (c) Let  $y = g(x)$  be the particular solution to the given differential equation with  $g(-1) = 2$ . Find  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -1} \left( \frac{g(x) - 2}{3(x + 1)^2} \right)$ . Show the work that leads to your answer.
- (d) Let  $y = h(x)$  be the particular solution to the given differential equation with  $h(0) = 2$ . Use Euler's method, starting at  $x = 0$  with two steps of equal size, to approximate  $h(1)$ .

Differential Equations Released AP Questions

2019 BC #4 (No calculator)



4. A cylindrical barrel with a diameter of 2 feet contains collected rainwater, as shown in the figure above. The water drains out through a valve (not shown) at the bottom of the barrel. The rate of change of the height  $h$  of the water in the barrel with respect to time  $t$  is modeled by  $\frac{dh}{dt} = -\frac{1}{10}\sqrt{h}$ , where  $h$  is measured in feet and  $t$  is measured in seconds. (The volume  $V$  of a cylinder with radius  $r$  and height  $h$  is  $V = \pi r^2 h$ .)
- (a) Find the rate of change of the volume of water in the barrel with respect to time when the height of the water is 4 feet. Indicate units of measure.
  - (b) When the height of the water is 3 feet, is the rate of change of the height of the water with respect to time increasing or decreasing? Explain your reasoning.
  - (c) At time  $t = 0$  seconds, the height of the water is 5 feet. Use separation of variables to find an expression for  $h$  in terms of  $t$ .