

2017 ap calculus bc

Book Concept: 2017 AP Calculus BC: Conquer the Curve

Logline: A gripping narrative interwoven with expert instruction, guiding students through the intricacies of the 2017 AP Calculus BC exam, transforming anxiety into mastery.

Storyline/Structure:

The book follows two fictional students, Maya and David, with contrasting learning styles and anxieties about the AP Calculus BC exam. Their journey unfolds through chapters that cover specific exam topics. Each chapter begins with Maya and David encountering a particular challenge, mirroring real-student struggles. The narrative then seamlessly transitions into a clear, concise explanation of the relevant calculus concept, complete with worked examples, practice problems, and test-taking strategies. Their successes and setbacks throughout the year build suspense, culminating in the final exam and their triumphant results. This narrative structure makes the learning process engaging and relatable.

Ebook Description:

Ready to conquer the 2017 AP Calculus BC exam and unlock your college potential? Are you drowning in derivatives, integrals, and series? Do you feel lost in a sea of formulas, struggling to connect the concepts and fearing exam day? Don't let Calculus BC become your academic nemesis.

This book offers a unique approach to mastering the 2017 AP Calculus BC curriculum. By combining a captivating narrative with expert instruction, it transforms the often-daunting subject into an accessible and even enjoyable learning experience.

Title: 2017 AP Calculus BC: Mastering the Curve

Contents:

Introduction: Meet Maya and David, and an overview of the AP Calculus BC exam.
Chapter 1: Limits and Continuity: Conquering the foundational concepts.
Chapter 2: Derivatives: Understanding the rate of change.
Chapter 3: Applications of Derivatives: Optimization and related rates.
Chapter 4: Integrals: The inverse of differentiation.
Chapter 5: Applications of Integrals: Area, volume, and more.
Chapter 6: Differential Equations: Solving equations involving derivatives.
Chapter 7: Sequences and Series: Infinite sums and convergence.
Chapter 8: Polar, Parametric, and Vector Functions: Expanding your mathematical horizons.
Chapter 9: Exam Strategies and Practice Tests: Preparing for success.
Conclusion: Reflecting on the journey and celebrating achievements.

Article: 2017 AP Calculus BC: Mastering the Curve

Introduction: Embarking on Your Calculus Journey

The AP Calculus BC exam can seem daunting, a formidable peak to climb in your academic journey. This comprehensive guide, structured around the 2017 exam, aims to equip you with the tools and understanding necessary not just to pass, but to conquer the curve. We'll follow the fictional journeys of Maya and David, two students facing their own unique challenges as they navigate the complexities of Calculus BC.

Chapter 1: Limits and Continuity: The Foundation of Calculus

H1: Understanding Limits

Limits form the bedrock of calculus. They describe the behavior of a function as its input approaches a certain value. Intuitively, a limit answers the question: "What value does the function approach as x gets closer and closer to a specific number?" We use precise mathematical language to define limits, employing the epsilon-delta definition for rigorous proofs. However, for the AP exam, understanding the graphical and numerical approaches to finding limits is often sufficient.

H2: Evaluating Limits

Many techniques exist for evaluating limits. Direct substitution is the simplest, but it doesn't always work. We explore techniques like factoring, rationalizing the numerator/denominator, and using L'Hôpital's Rule (for indeterminate forms). Understanding these techniques is crucial for solving many AP problems.

H3: Continuity

A function is continuous if you can draw its graph without lifting your pen. Formally, a function is continuous at a point if its limit at that point exists, equals the function's value at that point, and the function is defined at that point. Discontinuities are classified as removable, jump, or infinite, each with its own graphical and algebraic characteristics. Mastering continuity is key to understanding many derivative and integral concepts.

Chapter 2: Derivatives: The Rate of Change

H1: The Definition of the Derivative

The derivative measures the instantaneous rate of change of a function. We start with the difference quotient, which gives the average rate of change over an interval. Taking the limit as the interval shrinks to zero gives us the derivative, representing the instantaneous rate of change at a single point. This concept is fundamental to understanding velocity, acceleration, and many other

applications.

H2: Differentiation Rules

Memorizing and applying differentiation rules is essential for efficiency. We cover the power rule, product rule, quotient rule, chain rule, and implicit differentiation. Each rule addresses different scenarios for finding derivatives, and proficiency in these rules will drastically improve your speed and accuracy on the exam.

H3: Higher-Order Derivatives

Derivatives can be taken repeatedly. The second derivative represents the rate of change of the rate of change (like acceleration). Higher-order derivatives provide further information about the function's behavior, and understanding them is crucial for solving certain problems.

Chapter 3: Applications of Derivatives: Putting it to Work

H1: Optimization Problems

Derivatives allow us to find the maximum or minimum values of functions. This is crucial in optimization problems, where we aim to find the best possible solution within given constraints. Real-world applications include maximizing profit, minimizing cost, or maximizing area.

H2: Related Rates

Related rates problems involve finding the rate of change of one variable with respect to another, given their relationship. These problems often involve implicit differentiation and require careful understanding of the problem's context.

H3: Curve Sketching

Derivatives are instrumental in curve sketching. The first derivative tells us about increasing/decreasing intervals, and the second derivative helps identify concavity and inflection points. Combining this information, we can accurately sketch the graph of a function.

(Chapters 4-8 would follow a similar structure, covering integrals, their applications, differential equations, sequences and series, and polar, parametric, and vector functions. Each chapter would incorporate the narrative of Maya and David's progress.)

Chapter 9: Exam Strategies and Practice Tests:

This chapter focuses on practical strategies for success on the AP Calculus BC exam. We cover time management, pacing, and effective problem-solving techniques. Multiple practice tests, mirroring the format and difficulty of the actual exam, allow students to assess their progress and identify areas for

improvement.

Conclusion:

This journey through AP Calculus BC has been challenging but rewarding. Maya and David's story highlights the perseverance, hard work, and understanding that lead to success. By mastering the concepts outlined in this guide, you too can conquer the curve and achieve your academic goals.

FAQs:

1. What is the difference between AP Calculus AB and BC? BC covers all of AB plus additional topics such as series, parametric equations, and polar coordinates.
2. What resources are recommended besides this book? Practice problems from textbooks, online resources, and past AP exams are invaluable.
3. How many hours should I dedicate to studying? The required study time varies per student, but consistent effort is key.
4. Is a graphing calculator allowed on the exam? Yes, a graphing calculator is permitted and recommended.
5. What is the grading scale for the AP Calculus BC exam? The score ranges from 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest.
6. What topics are most frequently tested? Derivatives, integrals, and their applications are heavily emphasized.
7. How can I improve my problem-solving skills? Practice, practice, practice! Work through many problems of varying difficulty.
8. What should I do if I'm struggling with a particular concept? Seek help from teachers, tutors, or online resources.
9. What are the college credit implications of a high AP score? A high score can grant college credit, saving you time and money.

Related Articles:

1. Understanding the Epsilon-Delta Definition of a Limit: A deep dive into the formal definition of a limit.
2. Mastering L'Hôpital's Rule: A comprehensive guide to applying L'Hôpital's rule for evaluating

indeterminate forms.

3. Techniques for Solving Related Rates Problems: Strategies for tackling challenging related rates questions.
4. A Step-by-Step Guide to Optimization Problems: A practical approach to solving optimization problems using derivatives.
5. The Fundamentals of Integration Techniques: Exploring various methods for evaluating integrals.
6. Solving Differential Equations: A Beginner's Guide: Introduction to the basics of differential equations.
7. Understanding Convergence and Divergence of Series: A detailed explanation of series convergence tests.
8. Parametric and Polar Equations: A Visual Approach: A graphical interpretation of parametric and polar equations.
9. Strategies for Success on the AP Calculus BC Exam: Advanced test-taking strategies and time management techniques.

Additional Resources

2017 - Wikipedia

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