

The AP Calculus Test

The AP Calculus test consists of two main sections, multiple choice and free response. Each of these two main sections is broken into two parts, no calculator and calculator active.

Here's the breakdown:

- Multiple Choice Part A—28 questions, 55 minutes, no calculator
- Multiple Choice Part B—17 questions, 50 minutes, calculator active
- Free Response Part A—2 questions, 30 minutes, calculator active
- Free Response Part B—4 questions, 60 minutes, no calculator

During the final 60 minutes, you can work on any of the free response questions you like...but you may not use your calculator.

The test is worth 108 points, 54 point from multiple choice and 54 points from free response. It is not expected that all students will be able to answer all the questions.

In the past, a student who accumulates about 75%-78% will earn a 5 on the test. Around 50% usually earns a 3.

This is a difficult test...a very difficult test. The AP Calculus test is given to the best mathematics students across the world and the average score is a 3. In order to do well on the test, it is not enough that you know the material, you must be efficient. You must be able to complete problems without spending a lot of time wondering how to do it. This means that you will have to spend a great deal of time on this course.

The complete policy on calculator use can be found on the College Board website but here are the basics:

- You will use the calculator supplied by KHS. It is a TI-89 and is a very powerful tool which will be essential to your success in the course and the test.
- When using a calculator on the free response, you only need to show how the problem is set up and your result—no "steps" are shown.
- All approximate answers are given to 3 decimal places. Always 3. Never 2 or 4...always 3.
- You can actually bring two approved calculators into the test. So, if you have another graphing calculator, bring it if you wish.