Test Taking

(1) Make sure your students see and understand the instructions for the free-response section in advance. Know what you're allowed to do directly from the calculator.

(2) The AP grading process *gives* points rather than subtracting points. Is the connection or statement there? Or is it just implied?

(3) Be sure to communicate clearly what you are trying to do. Then do it. For example, if given a position function, when is the object moving to the right? $v(t) > 0$. Then find $v(t)$.

(4) When writing, don't simply refer to y or y' when the function is given as $f(x) = ...$

(5) Clearly label sign charts or other such graphs and charts. Do **not** use little arrows on sign charts. They are not considered standard mathematical notation.

(6) Three decimal places, rounded or truncated.
Exact is always accepted, too! Don't give both, since students could lose a point they once had by hitting the wrong button somewhere.

(7) In the calculator section, no more than a point will be given for evaluating an integral. It's probably better to use the built-in calculator functions. If there is plenty of time, a student may want to check their work. The non-calculator sections will test the student's ability to integrate.

(8) Required graphs should be decent, but they don't need to be perfect. Be sure to use the given window.

(9) Radian mode ?!?! Also, students are expected to know the trig functions of the basic angles.

(10) Students should reread the part of the problem they just completed before going on to the next part. Did they include units? Did they put both coordinates? Did they round to the nearest integer?

(11) Approximations should have a "≈" and (BC) series should have a "+...".

(12) Standard mathematical notation must be used.