

## **Tips for Answering Free Response Questions on the AP Exam**

1. Do not simplify arithmetic in your answers. If you do so incorrectly, you can miss the point.
2. Do not cross out work until you have replaced it with a better solution. Crossed out work will not be read.
3. Label your answers and use correct units.
4. Always finish the problem, even if you think the first part may be incorrect.
5. Show your work in mathematical terms, not calculator syntax.
6. Do not write incorrect math (i.e.  $-15.34 = 15.34$ )
7. Write your answers correct to three decimal places, either rounded or truncated.
8. Clearly refer to the problem – say things like “the Riemann Sum from part (a)” rather than just “a Riemann Sum”.
9. Always, always, always include the constant of integration (+C) in an indefinite integral and the limits of integration along with the integrand in a definite integral.
10. Do not use your calculator other than for graphing or finding roots, points of intersection, numerical derivatives and numerical integration.
11. Justify your answer when required!