

2018 AP[®] CALCULUS AB FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

t (years)	2	3	5	7	10
$H(t)$ (meters)	1.5	2	6	11	15

4. The height of a tree at time t is given by a twice-differentiable function H , where $H(t)$ is measured in meters and t is measured in years. Selected values of $H(t)$ are given in the table above.
- (a) Use the data in the table to estimate $H'(6)$. Using correct units, interpret the meaning of $H'(6)$ in the context of the problem.

Symmetric difference

t (years)	2	3	5	7	10
$H(t)$ (meters)	1.5	2	6	11	15

4. The height of a tree at time t is given by a twice-differentiable function H , where $H(t)$ is measured in meters and t is measured in years. Selected values of $H(t)$ are given in the table above.
- (a) Use the data in the table to estimate $H'(6)$. Using correct units, interpret the meaning of $H'(6)$ in the context of the problem.
- (b) Explain why there must be at least one time t , for $2 < t < 10$, such that $H'(t) = 2$.

AP[®] CALCULUS AB/CALCULUS BC
2018 SCORING GUIDELINES**Question 4**

$$(a) \quad H'(6) \approx \frac{H(7) - H(5)}{7 - 5} = \frac{11 - 6}{2} = \frac{5}{2}$$

$H'(6)$ is the rate at which the height of the tree is changing, in meters per year, at time $t = 6$ years.

$$(b) \quad \frac{H(5) - H(3)}{5 - 3} = \frac{6 - 2}{2} = 2$$

Because H is differentiable on $3 \leq t \leq 5$, H is continuous on $3 \leq t \leq 5$.

By the Mean Value Theorem, there exists a value c , $3 < c < 5$, such that $H'(c) = 2$.

2 : $\begin{cases} 1 : \text{estimate} \\ 1 : \text{interpretation with units} \end{cases}$

2 : $\begin{cases} 1 : \frac{H(5) - H(3)}{5 - 3} \\ 1 : \text{conclusion using} \\ \quad \text{Mean Value Theorem} \end{cases}$









