

AP Calculus BC
Chapter 10 Part 1– AP Exam Problems

All problems are NO CALCULATOR unless otherwise indicated.

Parametric Curves and Derivatives

1. In the xy -plane, the graph of the parametric equations $x = 5t + 2$ and $y = 3t$ for $-3 \leq t \leq 3$, is a line segment with slope.
A) $\frac{3}{5}$ B) $\frac{5}{3}$ C) 3 D) 5 E) 13
2. If $x = t^3 - t$ and $y = \sqrt{3t + 1}$, then $\frac{dy}{dx}$ at $t = 1$ is
A) $\frac{1}{8}$ B) $\frac{3}{8}$ C) $\frac{3}{4}$ D) $\frac{8}{3}$ E) 13
3. A curve in the plane is defined parametrically by the equations $x = t^3 + t$ and $y = t^4 + 2t^2$. An equation of the line tangent to the curve at $t = 1$ is:
A) $y = 2x$ C) $y = 2x - 1$ E) $y = 8x + 13$
B) $y = 8x$ D) $y = 4x - 5$
4. Consider the curve in the xy -plane represented by $x = e^t$ and $y = te^{-t}$ for $t \geq 0$. The slope of the line tangent to the curve at the point where $x = 3$ is (Calculator)
A) 20.086 B) 0.342 C) -0.005 D) -0.011 E) -0.033
5. If $x = t^2 + 1$ and $y = t^3$, then $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} =$
A) $\frac{3}{4t}$ B) $\frac{3}{2t}$ C) $3t$ D) $6t$ E) $\frac{3}{2}$
6. A particle moves along the curve $xy = 10$. If $x = 2$ and $\frac{dy}{dt} = 3$, what is the value of $\frac{dx}{dt}$?
A) $-\frac{5}{2}$ B) $-\frac{6}{5}$ C) 0 D) $\frac{4}{5}$ E) $\frac{6}{5}$
7. If $x = e^{2t}$ and $y = \sin(2t)$, then $\frac{dy}{dx} =$
A) $4e^{2t} \cos(2t)$ B) $\frac{e^{2t}}{\cos(2t)}$ C) $\frac{\sin(2t)}{2e^{2t}}$ D) $\frac{\cos(2t)}{2e^{2t}}$ E) $\frac{\cos(2t)}{e^{2t}}$

8. For what values of t does the curve given by the parametric equations $x = t^3 - t^2 - 1$ and $y = t^4 + 2t^2 - 8t$ have a vertical tangent?
- A) 0 B) 1 C) $0, \frac{2}{3}$ D) $0, \frac{2}{3}, \text{ and } 1$ E) No value
9. For $0 \leq t \leq 13$, an object travels along an elliptical path given by the parametric equations $x = 3\cos t$ and $y = 4\sin t$. At the point where $t = 13$, the object leaves the path and travels along the line tangent to the path at that point. What is the slope of the line on which the object travels?
- A) $-\frac{4}{3}$ B) $-\frac{3}{4}$ C) $-\frac{4\tan 13}{3}$ D) $-\frac{4}{3\tan 13}$ E) $-\frac{3}{4\tan 13}$
10. The position of a particle moving in the xy -plane is given by the parametric equations $x = t^3 - 3t^2$ and $y = 2t^3 - 3t^2 - 12t$. For what values of t is the particle at rest?
- A) -1 B) 0 C) 2 D) $-1, 2$ E) $-1, 0, 2$
11. A curve C is defined by the parametric equations $x = t^2 - 4t + 1$ and $y = t^3$. Which of the following is an equation of the line tangent to the graph of C at the point $(-3, 8)$?
- A) $x = -3$ B) $x = 2$ C) $y = 8$ D) $y = -\frac{27}{10}(x + 3) + 8$ E) $y = 12(x + 3) + 8$
-
12. (1973 BC4, p. 538 #33) A kite flies according to the parametric equations $x = \frac{t}{8}$ and $y = -\frac{3}{64}t(t - 128)$ where t is measured in seconds and $0 < t \leq 90$.
- (a) How high is the kite above the ground at time $t = 32$ seconds?
- (b) At what rate is the kite rising at $t = 32$ seconds?
- (c) At what rate is the string being reeled out at $t = 32$ seconds?
- (d) At what time does the kite start to lose altitude?
13. (1974 BC5) Given the parametric equations $x = 2(t - \sin t)$ and $y = 2(1 - \cos t)$.
- (a) Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ in terms of t .
- (b) Find an equation of the line tangent to the graph at $t = \pi$.
- (c) Find an equation of the line tangent to the graph at $t = 2\pi$.

14. (1982 BC6, p. 536 #9) Point $P(x, y)$ moves in the xy -plane in such a way that $\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{1}{t+1}$ and

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 2t \text{ for } t \geq 0.$$

- (a) Find the coordinates of P in terms of t if, when $t = 1$, $x = \ln 2$ and $y = 0$.
- (b) Write an equation expressing y in terms of x .
- (c) Find the average rate of change of y with respect to x as t varies from 0 to 4.
- (d) Find the instantaneous rate of change of y with respect to x when $t = 1$.

15. (1984 BC2, p. 538 #32) The path of a particle is given for time $t > 0$ by the parametric

$$\text{equations } x = t + \frac{2}{t} \text{ and } y = 3t^2.$$

- (a) Find the coordinates of each point on the path where the velocity of the particle in the x direction is zero.
- (b) Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ when $t = 1$.
- (c) Find $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$ when $y = 12$.

16. (1989 BC4, p. 538 #30) Consider the curve given by the parametric equations $x = 2t^3 - 3t^2$ and $y = t^3 - 12t$.

- (a) In terms of t , find $\frac{dy}{dx}$.
- (b) Write an equation for the line tangent to the curve at the point where $t = -1$.
- (c) Find the x and y coordinates for each critical point on the curve and identify each point as having a vertical or horizontal tangent.

17. (1993 BC2) The position of a particle at any time $t \geq 0$ is given by $x(t) = t^2 - 3$ and $y(t) = \frac{2}{3}t^3$.

Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ as a function of x .

Length of Parametric Curves

18. The length of the curve determined by the equations $x = t^2$ and $y = t$ from $t = 0$ to $t = 4$ is

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A) $\int_0^4 \sqrt{4t+1} dt$ | C) $\int_0^4 \sqrt{2t^2+1} dt$ | E) $2\pi \int_0^4 \sqrt{4t^2+1} dt$ |
| B) $2 \int_0^4 \sqrt{t^2+1} dt$ | D) $\int_0^4 \sqrt{4t^2+1} dt$ | |

19. The length of the path described by the parametric equations $x = \cos^3 t$ and $y = \sin^3 t$, for $0 \leq t \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$, is given by

- A) $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sqrt{3\cos^2 t + 3\sin^2 t} dt$ B) $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sqrt{-3\cos^2 t \sin t + 3\sin^2 t \cos t} dt$
 C) $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sqrt{9\cos^4 t + 9\sin^4 t} dt$ D) $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sqrt{9\cos^4 t \sin^2 t + 9\sin^4 t \cos^2 t} dt$
 E) $\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sqrt{\cos^6 t + \sin^6 t} dt$

20. The length of the path described by the parametric equations $x = \frac{1}{3}t^3$ and $y = \frac{1}{2}t^2$, where $0 \leq t \leq 1$, is given by

- A) $\int_0^1 \sqrt{t^2 + 1} dt$ C) $\int_0^1 \sqrt{t^4 + t^2} dt$ E) $\frac{1}{6} \int_0^1 t^2 \sqrt{4t^2 + 9} dt$
 B) $\int_0^1 \sqrt{t^2 + t} dt$ D) $\frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \sqrt{4 + t^4} dt$

21. (1972 BC7) Let C be the curve defined from $t = 0$ to $t = 6$ by the parametric equations $x = \frac{t+2}{2}$, $y = t(6-t)$. Set up but do not evaluate an integral expression for the length of C .

22. (1974 BC5) Given the parametric equations $x = 2(t - \sin t)$ and $y = 2(1 - \cos t)$. Set up but do not evaluate an integral expression representing the length of the curve over the interval $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$. Express the integrand as a function of t .

Vectors

23. If f is a vector-valued function defined by $f(t) = (e^{-t}, \cos t)$, then $f''(t) =$

- A) $-e^{-t} + \sin t$ C) $(-e^{-t}, -\sin t)$ E) $(e^{-t}, -\cos t)$
 B) $e^{-t} - \cos t$ D) $(e^{-t}, \cos t)$

24. A particle moves in the xy -plane so that at any time t its coordinates are $x = t^2 - 1$ and $y = t^4 - 2t^3$. At $t = 1$, its acceleration vector is

- A) $(0, -1)$ B) $(0, 12)$ C) $(2, -2)$ D) $(2, 0)$ E) $(2, 8)$

25. For any time $t \geq 0$, if the position of a particle in the xy -plane is given by $x = t^2 + 1$ and $y = \ln(2t + 3)$, then the acceleration vector is

- A) $\left(2t, \frac{2}{2t+3}\right)$ C) $\left(2, \frac{4}{(2t+3)^2}\right)$ E) $\left(2, \frac{-4}{(2t+3)^2}\right)$
 B) $\left(2t, \frac{-4}{(2t+3)^2}\right)$ D) $\left(2, \frac{2}{(2t+3)^2}\right)$

26. If a particle moves in the xy -plane so that at time $t > 0$ its position vector is $(\ln(t^2 + 2t), 2t^2)$, then at time $t = 2$, its velocity vector is

- A) $\left(\frac{3}{4}, 8\right)$ B) $\left(\frac{3}{4}, 4\right)$ C) $\left(\frac{1}{8}, 8\right)$ D) $\left(\frac{1}{8}, 4\right)$ E) $\left(-\frac{5}{16}, 4\right)$

27. A particle moves on a plane curve so that at any time $t > 0$ its x -coordinate is $t^3 - t$ and its y -coordinate is $(2t - 1)^3$. The acceleration vector of the particle at $t = 1$ is

- A) (0, 1) B) (2, 3) C) (2, 6) D) (6, 12) E) (6, 24)

28. A particle moves in the xy -plane so that its position at any time t is given by $x = t^2$ and $y = \sin(4t)$. What is the speed of the particle when $t = 3$?

- A) 2.909 B) 3.062 C) 6.884 D) 9.016 E) 47.393

29. (1975 BC3) A particle moves on the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ so that at time $t \geq 0$ the position is given by the vector $\left(\frac{1-t^2}{1+t^2}, \frac{2t}{1+t^2}\right)$.

- (a) Find the velocity vector.
 (b) Is the particle ever at rest? Justify your answer.
 (c) Give the coordinates of the point that the particle approaches as t increases without bound.

30. (1987 BC5) The position of a particle moving in the xy -plane at any time t , $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$, is given by the parametric equations $x = \sin t$ and $y = \cos(2t)$.

- (a) Find the velocity vector for the particle at anytime t , $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$.
 (b) For what values of t is the particle at rest?
 (c) Write an equation for the path of the particle in terms of x and y that does not involve trigonometric functions.

31. (1992 BC3) At time t , $0 \leq t \leq 2\pi$, the position of a particle moving along a path in the xy -plane is given by the parametric equations $x = e^t \sin t$ and $y = e^t \cos t$.
- Find the slope of the path of the particle at time $t = \frac{\pi}{2}$.
 - Find the speed of the particle when $t = 1$.
 - Find the distance traveled by the particle along the path from $t = 0$ to $t = 1$.
32. (1993 BC2) The position of a particle at any time $t \geq 0$ is given by $x(t) = t^2 - 3$ and $y(t) = \frac{2}{3}t^3$.
- Find the magnitude of the velocity vector at $t = 5$.
 - Find the total distance traveled by the particle from $t = 0$ to $t = 5$.
33. (1994 BC3) A particle moves along the graph of $y = \cos x$ so that x -component of acceleration is always 2. At time $t = 0$, the particle is at the point $(\pi, -1)$ and the velocity vector of the particle is $(0, 0)$.
- Find the x and y coordinates of the position of the particle in terms of t .
 - Find the speed of the particle when its position is $(4, \cos 4)$.
34. (1995 BC1) Two particles move in the xy -plane. For time $t \geq 0$, the position of particle A is given by $x = t - 2$ and $y = (t - 2)^2$, and the position of particle B is given by $x = \frac{3t}{2} - 4$ and $y = \frac{3t}{2} - 2$.
- Find the velocity vector for each particle at time $t = 3$.
 - Set up an integral expression that gives the distance traveled by particle A from $t = 0$ to $t = 3$. Do not evaluate.
 - Determine the exact time at which the particles collide; that is, when the particles are at the same point at the same time. Justify your answer.
35. (1997 BC1) During the time period from $t = 0$ to $t = 6$ seconds, a particle moves along the path given by $x(t) = 3\cos(\pi t)$ and $y(t) = 5\sin(\pi t)$.
- Find the position of the particle when $t = 2.5$.
 - On a set of x and y -axes, sketch the graph of the path of the particle from $t = 0$ to $t = 6$. Indicate the direction of the particle along this path.
 - How many times does the particle pass through the point found in part (a)?
 - Find the velocity vector for the particle at any time t .
 - Write and evaluate an integral expression, in terms of sine and cosine, that gives the distance the particle travels from time $t = 1.25$ to $t = 1.75$.

36. (1999 BC1) A particle moves in the xy -plane so that its position at any time t , $0 \leq t \leq \pi$, is given

by $x(t) = \frac{t^2}{2} - \ln(1+t)$ and $y(t) = 3\sin t$.

- (a) Sketch the path of the particle on a set of x and y -axes. Indicate the direction of motion along the path.
- (b) At what time t , $0 \leq t \leq \pi$, does $x(t)$ attain its minimum value? What is the position $(x(t), y(t))$ of the particle at this time?
- (c) At what time t , $0 \leq t \leq \pi$, is the particle on the y -axis? Find the speed and the acceleration vector of the particle at this time.

37. (2000 BC4) A moving particle has position $(x(t), y(t))$ at time t . The position of the particle at

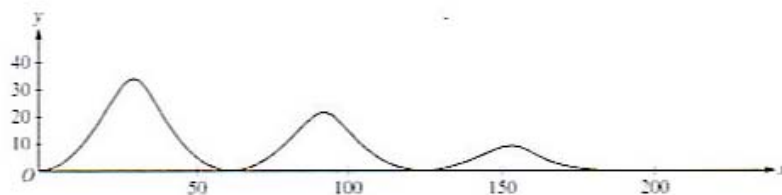
time $t = 1$ is $(2, 6)$, and the velocity vector at any time $t > 0$ is given by $\left(1 - \frac{1}{t^2}, 2 + \frac{1}{t^2}\right)$.

- (a) Find the acceleration vector at time $t = 3$.
- (b) Find the position of the particle at time $t = 3$.
- (c) For what time $t > 0$ does the line tangent to the path of the particle at $(x(t), y(t))$ have a slope of 8?
- (d) The particle approaches a line as $t \rightarrow \infty$. Find the slope of this line. Show the work that leads to your conclusion.

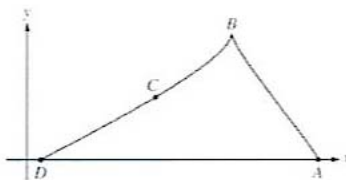
38. (2001 BC1) An object moving along a curve in the xy -plane has position $(x(t), y(t))$ at time t

with $\frac{dx}{dt} = \cos(t^3)$ and $\frac{dy}{dt} = 3\sin(t^2)$ for $0 \leq t \leq 3$. At time $t = 2$, the object is at position $(4, 5)$.

- (a) Write an equation for the line tangent to the curve at $(4, 5)$.
- (b) Find the speed of the object at time $t = 2$.
- (c) Find the total distance traveled by the object over the time interval $0 \leq t \leq 1$.
- (d) Find the position of the object at time $t = 3$.



39. (2002 BC3) The figure above shows the path traveled by a roller coaster car over the time interval $0 \leq t \leq 18$ seconds. The position of the car at time t seconds can be modeled parametrically by $x = 10t + 4\sin t$, $y = (20 - t)(1 - \cos t)$, where x and y are measured in meters. The derivatives of these functions are given by $x' = 10 + 4\cos t$, $y' = (20 - t)\sin t + \cos t - 1$.
- Find the slope of the path at time $t = 2$. Show the computations that lead to your answer.
 - Find the acceleration vector of the car at the time when the car's horizontal position is $x = 140$.
 - Find the time t at which the car is at its maximum height, and find the speed, in m/sec, of the car at this time.
 - For $0 < t < 18$, there are two times at which the car is a ground level ($y = 0$). Find these two times and write an expression that gives the average speed, in m/sec, of the car between these two times. Do not evaluate the expression.
40. (2002B BC1) A particle moves in the xy -plane so that its position at any time t , $-\pi \leq t \leq \pi$, is given by $x(t) = \sin(3t)$ and $y(t) = 2t$.
- Sketch the path of the particle on a set of x and y -axes. Indicate the direction of motion along the path.
 - Find the range of $x(t)$ and the range of $y(t)$.
 - Find the smallest positive value of t for which the x -coordinate of the particle is a local maximum. What is the speed of the particle at this time?
 - Is the distance traveled by the particle in $-\pi \leq t \leq \pi$ greater than 5π ? Justify your answer.



41. (2003 BC2) A particle starts at point A on the positive x - axis at time $t = 0$ and travels along the curve from A to B to C to D , as shown above. The coordinates of the particle's position $(x(t), y(t))$ are differentiable functions of t , where $x' = \frac{dx}{dt} = -9\cos\left(\frac{\pi t}{6}\right)\sin\left(\frac{\pi\sqrt{t+1}}{2}\right)$ and $y' = \frac{dy}{dt}$ is not explicitly given. At time $t = 9$, the particle reaches its final position at point D on the positive x - axis.
- At point C , is $\frac{dy}{dt}$ positive? At point C , is $\frac{dx}{dt}$ positive? Give a reason for each answer.
 - The slope of the curve is undefined at point B . At what time t is the particle at B ?
 - The line tangent to the curve at the point $(x(8), y(8))$ has equation $y = \frac{5}{9}x - 2$. Find the velocity vector and the speed of the particle at this point.
 - How far apart are points A and D , the initial and final positions, respectively, of the particle?
42. (2003B BC4) A particle moves in the xy - plane so that the position of the particle at any time t is given by $x(t) = 2e^{3t} + e^{-7t}$ and $y(t) = 3e^{3t} - e^{-2t}$.
- Find the velocity vector for the particle in terms of t , and find the speed of the particle at time $t = 0$.
 - Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ in terms of t , and find $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{dy}{dx}$.
 - Find each value t at which the line tangent to the path of the particle is horizontal, or explain why none exists.
 - Find each value t at which the line tangent to the path of the particle is vertical, or explain why none exists.

43. (2004 BC3) An object moving along a curve in the xy -plane has position $(x(t), y(t))$ at time $t \geq 0$ with $\frac{dx}{dt} = 3 + \cos(t^2)$. The derivative $\frac{dy}{dx}$ is not explicitly given. At time $t = 2$, the object is at position $(1, 8)$.
- Find the x -coordinate of the position of the object at time $t = 4$.
 - At time $t = 2$, the value of $\frac{dy}{dt} = -7$. Write an equation for the line tangent to the curve at the point $(x(2), y(2))$.
 - Find the speed of the object at time $t = 2$.
 - For $t \geq 3$, the line tangent to the curve at $(x(t), y(t))$ has a slope of $2t + 1$. Find the acceleration vector of the object at time $t = 4$.
44. (2004B BC1) A particle moving along a curve in the plane has position $(x(t), y(t))$ at time t , where $\frac{dx}{dt} = \sqrt{t^4 + 9}$ and $\frac{dy}{dt} = 2e^t + 5e^{-t}$ for all real values of t . At time $t = 0$, the particle is at the point $(4, 1)$.
- Find the speed of the particle and its acceleration vector at time $t = 0$.
 - Find an equation of the line tangent to the path of the particle at time $t = 0$.
 - Find the total distance traveled by the particle over the time interval $0 \leq t \leq 3$.
 - Find the x -coordinate of the position of the particle at time $t = 3$.
45. (2005B BC1) A particle moving along a curve in the xy -plane has position $(x(t), y(t))$ at time $t \geq 0$, where $\frac{dx}{dt} = 12t - 3t^2$ and $\frac{dy}{dt} = \ln(1 + (t - 4)^4)$. At time $t = 0$, the particle is at the point $(-13, 5)$. At $t = 2$, the object is at point P with x -coordinate 3.
- Find the acceleration vector at time $t = 2$ and the speed at time $t = 2$.
 - Find the y -coordinate of P .
 - Write an equation for the line tangent to the curve at P .
 - For what value of t , if any, is the object at rest? Explain your reasoning.
46. (2006 BC3) An object moving along a curve in the xy -plane is at position $(x(t), y(t))$ at time t , where $\frac{dx}{dt} = \sin^{-1}(1 - 2e^{-t})$ and $\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{4t}{1 + t^3}$ for $t > 0$. At time $t = 2$, the object is at the point $(6, -3)$.
- Find the acceleration vector and the speed of the object at time $t = 2$.
 - The curve has a vertical tangent line at one point. At what time t is the object at this point?
 - Let $m(t)$ denote the slope of the line tangent to the curve at the point $(x(t), y(t))$. Write an expression for $m(t)$ in terms of t and use it to evaluate $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} m(t)$.
 - The graph of the curve has a horizontal asymptote $y = c$. Write, but do not evaluate, an expression involving an improper integral that represents this value c .

47. (2006B BC2) An object moving along a curve in the xy -plane is at position $(x(t), y(t))$ at time t , where $\frac{dx}{dt} = \tan(e^{-t})$ and $\frac{dy}{dt} = \sec(e^{-t})$ for $t \geq 0$. At time $t = 1$, the object is at the point $(2, -3)$.
- Write an equation for the line tangent to the curve at position $(2, -3)$.
 - Find the acceleration vector and the speed of the object at time $t = 1$.
 - Find the total distance traveled by the object over the time interval $1 \leq t \leq 2$.
 - Is there a time $t \geq 0$ at which the object is on the y -axis? Explain why or why not.
48. (2007B BC2) An object moving along a curve in the xy -plane is at position $(x(t), y(t))$ at time t with $\frac{dx}{dt} = \arctan\left(\frac{t}{1+t}\right)$ and $\frac{dy}{dt} = \ln(t^2 + 1)$ for $t \geq 0$. At time $t = 0$, the object is at position $(-3, 4)$.
- Find the speed of the object at time $t = 4$.
 - Find the total distance traveled by the object over the time interval $0 \leq t \leq 4$.
 - Find $x(4)$.
 - For $t > 0$, there is a point on the curve where the line tangent to the curve has slope 2. At what time t is the object at this point? Find the acceleration vector at this point.
49. (2008B BC1) A particle moving along a curve in the xy -plane has position $(x(t), y(t))$ at time $t \geq 0$ with $\frac{dx}{dt} = \sqrt{3t}$ and $\frac{dy}{dt} = 3\cos\left(\frac{t^2}{2}\right)$. The particle is at position $(1, 5)$ at time $t = 4$.
- Find the acceleration vector at time $t = 4$.
 - Find the y -coordinate of the position of the particle at time $t = 0$.
 - On the interval $0 \leq t \leq 4$, at what time does the speed of the particle first reach 3.5?
 - Find the total distance traveled by the particle over the time interval $0 \leq t \leq 4$.

Answers

Parametric Curves and Derivatives

1. A	1998	BC	#2	92%
2. B	1985	BC	#30	73%
3. C	1988	BC	#34	68%
4. D	1993	BC	#25	54%
5. A	1993	BC	#6	39%
6. B	1993	BC	#4	75%
7. E	1997	BC	#2	92%
8. C	1997	BC	#18	62%
9. D	2003	BC	#4	79%
10. C	2003	BC	#7	29%
11. A	2003	BC	#17	36%

Length of Parametric Curves

18. D	1993	BC	#23	83%
19. D	1997	BC	#15	66%
20. C	1998	BC	#21	73%

Vectors

23. E	1998	BC	#77	87%
24. D	1985	BC	#4	69%
25. E	1988	BC	#15	75%
26. A	1993	BC	#28	86%
27. E	1998	BC	#10	75%
28. C	2003	BC	#84	62%