

Reading error

just good enough / let me tell you everything I know

- gave only part of an answer
- didn't give all the parts asked for
- gave more than the problem actually asked for

Reading error

use any number I feel like using

- take the limit as x approaches the wrong number

Reading error

I don't remember that, so I'll do something else

- found the derivative instead of the antiderivative
- found the antiderivative instead of the derivative
- found the function value instead of the limit
- found the 2nd derivative instead of the 1st derivative

Reading error

why approximate when we can do exact?

- found a definite integral instead of a left sum
- found a definite integral instead of a right sum
- found a definite integral instead of a trapezoidal sum
- evaluated the derivative instead of using slope formula

Reading error

what are those funny little math symbols?

- omitted or ignored radicals
- omitted or ignored parentheses
- omitted or ignored absolute value bars

Reading error

here's the area instead of the height

- stopped with a definite integral instead of giving the average value
- gave the average value instead of the value of c guaranteed by the MVT

algebra errors

- gave the wrong answer for solving an equation

used the "when in doubt" rule,
which is almost always wrong

- when in doubt, just multiply all the numbers in the problem and hope that it gives you something useful.

algebra/calculus confusion

using algebra instead of calculus when calculus is asked for

- plug in values instead of finding limits

differentiation rule errors

- using the wrong differentiation rule
- didn't use a differentiation rule at all
- made up a differentiation rule
- didn't use the product rule when called for
- didn't use the quotient rule when called for

chain rule error

Oh, that's a composite function?

- ignored the composite function and so, didn't use the chain rule when differentiating
- ignored the composite function and so, didn't use u substitution when integrating