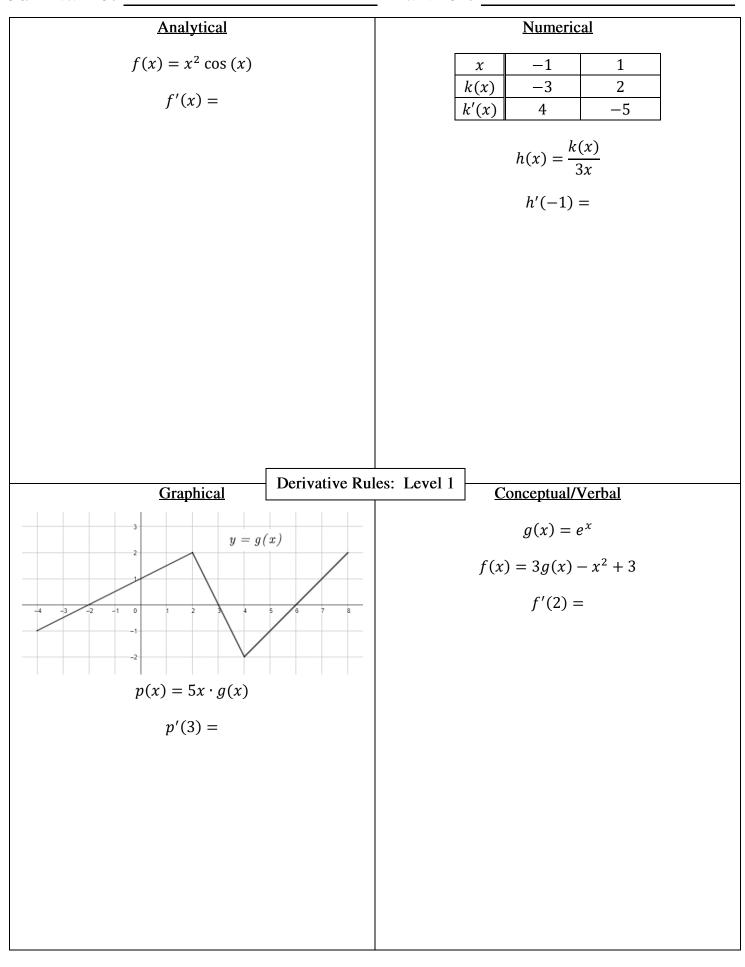
Your Name:

Partner:



Name:	Block:	Date:
The Basics of Speed, Velocity and Acceleration	AP Calculus AB	
Prior knowledge about the Cartesian coordinat	e plane	
On the Cartesian coordinate plane, as we read n	numbers along the hori	zontal axis from
, the numbers are	, wit	numbers to the
left, and numbers to the righ	t. Similarly, as we read	d numbers along the vertical axis
from, ti	he numbers are	, with negative
numbers below the and positive	numbers above the	
Part I – Speed versus Velocity		
Velocity is a function of time. Velocity gives us		and
the	·	
By contrast, speed gives us		, but not the
	·	
The formula for speed is =	Thus, by definitio	n, speed is always
·		
Part II – The direction of movement		
Assume a particle is moving along a horizontal li	ne. When the particle	is moving to the right, then
When the particle is n		
If an object is falling vertically, then	If an obje	ect is traveling upward, then
·		
Finally, if, then there are t	wo possible interpretat	ions:
1) the object is or		
2) the object is at a point where it is		
the object is at a point where it is		