

mv calculus grading rubric

Excellent	Your answer shows excellent understanding of the ideas involved to solve the problem. You correctly determine the given and needed information, identify and use the correct formulas/equations, and accurately answer the question(s) addressed. Your written explanation is clear, uses the correct terminology, and explains the reasoning behind each step accurately.
Fair	Your answer shows a good understanding of the ideas involved to solve the problem. Although there is significant evidence that you can recognize and apply the concepts, some areas of the response are incorrect. Your written explanation is for the most part clear, uses the correct terminology, and explains the reasoning behind each step with some accuracy – although some further explanation might have proved useful.
Okay	Your answer provides mixed evidence as to your understanding of the ideas involved in solving the problem. While some areas of the task are correct, others are not. Your written explanation is slightly muddled, uses sometimes correct terminology, and often forgets to explain the reasoning behind each step.
Needs Improvement	Your answer shows a minimal or no understanding of the ideas involved to solve the problem. Your written explanation is nonexistent or confusing, and the reasoning behind each step is wrong or missing.

Good solutions do *not* have to be the lengthy ones, although I believe it is better to err on the side of a surfeit of explanation rather than a dearth. As the course progresses, you will learn what is necessary to include in your solution and what isn't. In general, *routine algebra* can be skipped, as long as tricky steps (e.g. using trigonometric identities) are mentioned. Your assumed audience should be another student in this course, who is slightly less capable than yourself. (Hence, you're going to want to explain things to them.) Being consistent with notation is important (e.g. don't leave off the vector signs). Lastly, and perhaps most importantly for this course, drawing illustrations can help make your explanation much more clear.