

How to get marks for Integration by Substitution questions

1. $\frac{du}{dx} =$
2. Correct integral all in terms of u (i.e. no x 's) and including the du
3. Correct simplification of the integral, ready for integrating
4. Correct integration
5. Correct conversion of limits or re-substitution for x 's
6. Correct final answer in required format

(Note that there may be more marks available if question is more complicated)

How to get marks for Integration by Substitution Questions

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|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Question & substitution | $\int_1^3 \frac{x^2}{2x-1} dx$ $u = 2x - 1$ | $\int_0^1 x\sqrt{3x+1} dx$ $u = 3x + 1$ | $\int_{\sqrt{2}}^2 \frac{1}{x^2\sqrt{x^2-1}} dx$ $x = \operatorname{cosec}\theta$ | $\int_0^1 \frac{x^7}{(x^4+2)^2} dx$ $u = x^4 + 2$ | $\int_1^4 \frac{1}{x+\sqrt{x}} dx$ $u = \sqrt{x}$ |
| $\frac{du}{dx} =$ | | | $\frac{dx}{d\theta} =$ | | |
| Correct integral all in terms of u (i.e. no x's) and including the du | | | | | |
| Correct simplification of the integral, ready for integrating | | | | | |
| Correct integration | | | | | |
| Correct conversion of limits or re-substitution for x's | | | | | |
| Correct final answer in required format | | | | | |
| Exam Paper Ref. | AQA Jan 2010 | AQA Jan 2011 | AQA Jan 2012 | AQA June 2012 | AQA June 2013 |

How to get marks for Integration by Substitution Questions - Answers

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|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Question & substitution | $\int_1^3 \frac{x^2}{2x-1} dx$ $u = 2x - 1$ | $\int_0^1 x\sqrt{3x+1} dx$ $u = 3x + 1$ | $\int_{\sqrt{2}}^2 \frac{1}{x^2\sqrt{x^2-1}} dx$ $x = \cosec\theta$ | $\int_0^1 \frac{x^7}{(x^4+2)^2} dx$ $u = x^4 + 2$ | $\int_1^4 \frac{1}{x+\sqrt{x}} dx$ $u = \sqrt{x}$ |
| $\frac{du}{dx} =$ | = 2 | = 3 | $\frac{dx}{d\theta} = -\cosec\theta\cot\theta$ $= \frac{-1}{\sin\theta} \cdot \frac{\cos\theta}{\sin\theta}$ | = $4x^3$ | $= \frac{1}{2}u^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$ |
| Correct integral all in terms of u (i.e. no x's) and including the du | $\int \left(\frac{u+1}{2}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1}{u}\right) \frac{du}{2}$ | $\int \frac{u+1}{2} \sqrt{u} \frac{du}{3}$ | $\int \frac{1}{\cosec^2\theta\sqrt{\cosec^2\theta-1}} \cdot \frac{-\cos\theta}{\sin^2\theta} d\theta$ | $\int \frac{u-2}{u^2} du$ | $\int \frac{1}{u^2+u} \cdot 2u du$ |
| Correct simplification of the integral, ready for integrating | $\frac{1}{8} \int u + 2 + \frac{1}{u} du$ | $\frac{1}{9} \int u^{\frac{3}{5}} - u^{\frac{1}{2}} du$ | $- \int \sin\theta d\theta$ | $\int u^{-1} - 2u^{-2} du$ | $2 \int \frac{1}{u+1} du$ |
| Correct integration | $\frac{1}{8} \left[\frac{u^2}{2} + 2u + \ln u \right]$ | $\frac{1}{9} \left[\frac{2u^{\frac{5}{2}}}{5} - \frac{2u^{\frac{3}{2}}}{3} \right]$ | $\cos\theta$ | $\left[\ln u + \frac{2}{u} \right]$ | $2[\ln(u+1)]$ |
| Correct conversion of limits or re-substitution for x's | $\begin{array}{ c c } \hline x & u \\ \hline 3 & 5 \\ 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ c c } \hline x & u \\ \hline 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ c c } \hline \theta & x \\ \hline 2 & \frac{\pi}{6} \\ \sqrt{2} & \frac{\pi}{4} \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ c c } \hline x & U \\ \hline 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ c c } \hline x & u \\ \hline 4 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| Correct final answer in required format | $\frac{5}{2} + \frac{\ln 5}{8}$ | $\frac{116}{135}$ | $\frac{\sqrt{3} - \sqrt{2}}{2}$ | $\ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{3}$ | $2\ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)$ |
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