

$$f(x) = \ln\left(x \cdot \sqrt{x^2 - 1}\right)$$

$$1) f(x) = \ln(x) + \ln\left(\sqrt{x^2 - 1}\right) \quad \text{rewrite using the fact that } \ln(f(x)g(x)) = \ln(f(x)) + \ln(g(x))$$

$$2) f'(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \ln(x) + \frac{d}{dx} \ln\left(\sqrt{x^2 - 1}\right) \quad \text{Apply the derivative symbol to each term individually}$$

$$3) \frac{d}{dx} \ln(x) = \frac{1}{x} \quad \text{this is the easy one}$$

$$4) \frac{d}{dx} \ln\left(\sqrt{x^2 - 1}\right) = \frac{d}{dx} \ln\left[\left(x^2 - 1\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}\right] = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \cdot \ln\left(x^2 - 1\right) \quad \text{Put } \frac{1}{2} \text{ in front using a rule of logs } \ln\left(x^a\right) = a \ln(x)$$

$$5) \text{ Now use the chain rule: } \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \ln\left(x^2 - 1\right) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{x^2 - 1} \cdot \left[\frac{d}{dx} \left(x^2 - 1\right)\right] = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{x^2 - 1} \cdot 2x = \frac{2}{2} \cdot \frac{x}{x^2 - 1} = \frac{x}{x^2 - 1}$$

$$6) \text{ Now add the results of steps 3) and 5) together to get the final derivative: } f'(x) = \frac{1}{x} + \frac{x}{x^2 - 1}$$

7) Rewrite the final expression on the right by getting a common denominator:

$$7a) \text{ This means } \frac{1}{x} \text{ has to be multiplied by } \frac{x^2 - 1}{x^2 - 1} \text{ to get } \frac{x^2 - 1}{x(x^2 - 1)}$$

$$7b) \text{ This means } \frac{x}{x^2 - 1} \text{ has to be multiplied by } \frac{x}{x} \text{ to get } \frac{x \cdot x}{x(x^2 - 1)} = \frac{x^2}{x(x^2 - 1)}$$

$$8) \text{ Now combine these two to get } f'(x) = \frac{x^2 - 1}{x(x^2 - 1)} + \frac{x^2}{x(x^2 - 1)} = \frac{x^2 - 1 + x^2}{x(x^2 - 1)} = \frac{2x^2 - 1}{x(x^2 - 1)}$$

Note: Fight on!! You don't know what you can do until you give everything you've got, which is way more than you think!!