Day 8 – Optimization

Key

Objective: Use derivatives to solve problems involving optimization

Optimization involves finding the largest or smallest values of a function. As with all functions, the domain is vital to determining the solution

Steps in Solving Optimization Problems

- Understand the problem. Read the problem carefully. Ask yourself: What is the unknown? What are the given quantities? What are the given conditions?
- Draw a Diagram.
- Introduce variables. Write a primary equation for the quantity to be optimized
- Reduce the primary equation to one having a single independent variable.
- Determine the feasible domain.
- Solve

Example #1

A rectangular garden is to be enclosed using the wall of a building as one side and 60-feet of fencing on the other three sides. Find the length and width that will give the maximum area. 2 = 30



