Reading Questions for Boyce and DiPrima, Section 3.4

[Submit your responses by 3 am, Wed., Mar. 13, using the webform below.]

1. In what context is reduction of order a useful idea? That is, if solving a linear 2nd order homogeneous ODE

\[ y'' + p_1(t)y' + p_2(t)y = 0, \]

under what conditions would you employ it?

2. What is the key idea behind reduction of order?

3. Identify one item (a concept, a step in an example, a statement, etc.) from this reading assignment you found difficult or confusing.