

The Bridge to A level

Test Yourself *Worked Solutions*



1 Solving quadratic equations

Question 1

Find the real roots of the equation $x^4 - 5x^2 - 36 = 0$ by considering it as a quadratic equation in x^2

Treat as a quadratic in x^2 .

Factorise $(x^2 - 9)(x^2 + 4) = 0$

→ $(x^2 - 9) = 0$ or $(x^2 + 4) = 0$

→ $x^2 = 9$ or $x^2 = -4$

→ $x = \pm 3$ or No real roots

→ $x = \pm 3$

(4)

Question 2

(i) Write $4x^2 - 24x + 27$ in the form of $a(x - b)^2 + c$

(4)

(ii) State the coordinates of the minimum point on the curve $y = 4x^2 - 24x + 27$.

Minimum point at (3,-9)

(2)

Total / 10

2 Changing the Subject

Question 1

Make t the subject of the formula $s = \frac{1}{2}at^2$

$$\begin{aligned}
 s &= \frac{1}{2}at^2 \\
 2s &= at^2 \\
 \frac{2s}{a} &= t^2 \\
 t &= \pm \sqrt{\frac{2s}{a}}
 \end{aligned}$$

(3)

Question 2

Make x the subject of $3x - 5y = y - mx$

$$\begin{aligned}
 2) \quad 3x - 5y &= y - mx \\
 3x + mx - 5y &= y \\
 3x + mx &= y + 5y \\
 x(3+m) &= 6y \\
 x &= \frac{6y}{(3+m)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Get to
6y = 6y
with x without x

Factorise, then
divide by
factor

(3)

Question 3

Make x the subject of the equation $y = \frac{x+3}{x-2}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 y &= \frac{x+3}{x-2} \\
 y(x-2) &= x+3 \\
 xy - 2y &= x+3 \\
 xy - x &= 2y+3 \\
 x(y-1) &= 2y+3 \\
 x &= \frac{2y+3}{y-1}
 \end{aligned}$$

(4)

Total / 10

3 Simultaneous equations

Question 1

Find the coordinates of the point of intersection of the lines $x + 2y = 5$ and $y = 5x - 1$

$$x + 2(5x - 1) = 5$$

$$x + 10x - 2 = 5$$

$$11x = 7$$

$$x = \frac{7}{11} \quad y = \frac{35}{11} - 1 \quad y = \frac{24}{11}$$

(3)

Question 2

The lines $y = 5x - a$ and $y = 2x + 18$ meet at the point $(7, b)$. Find the values of a and b .

$$5x - a = 2x + 18$$

$$35 - a = 14 + 18$$

$$a = 3 \quad b = 35 - 3 = 32$$

(3)

Question 3

A line and a curve has the following equations :

$$3x + 2y = 7$$

$$y = x^2 - 2x + 3$$

Find the coordinates of the points of intersection of the line and the curve by solving these simultaneous equations algebraically

Substitute y from 2nd equation into 1st.

$$3x + 2(x^2 - 2x + 3) = 7$$

$$3x + 2x^2 - 4x + 6 = 7$$

$$2x^2 - x + 6 = 7$$

$$2x^2 - x - 1 = 0$$

Factorise: $(2x+1)(x-1) = 0$

means $2x+1=0$ or $x-1=0$

*$2x = -1$ or $x = 1$
 $x = -\frac{1}{2}$*

When $x = -\frac{1}{2}$:

$$(3x - \frac{1}{2}) + 2y = 7$$

$$-1.5 + 2y = 7$$

$$2y = 8.5$$

$$y = 4.25$$

When $x = 1$

$$(3x + 1) + 2y = 7$$

$$3 + 2y = 7$$

$$2y = 4$$

$$y = 2$$

First point $(-\frac{1}{2}, 4.25)$

Second point $(1, 2)$.

(4)

4 Surds

Question 1

(i) Simplify $\sqrt{24} + \sqrt{6}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad & \sqrt{24} + \sqrt{6} \\ & = \sqrt{4} \sqrt{6} + \sqrt{6} \\ & = 2\sqrt{6} + \sqrt{6} \\ & = \underline{3\sqrt{6}} \end{aligned}$$

(2)

(ii) Express $\frac{36}{5-\sqrt{7}}$ in the form $a + b\sqrt{7}$, where a and b are integers.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(ii)} \quad & \frac{36}{5-\sqrt{7}} = \frac{36}{5-\sqrt{7}} \times \frac{(5+\sqrt{7})}{(5+\sqrt{7})} \\ & = \frac{36 \times (5+\sqrt{7})}{25 - 5\sqrt{7} + 5\sqrt{7} - (\sqrt{7})^2} \\ & = \frac{36(5+\sqrt{7})}{18} \\ & = 2(5+\sqrt{7}) \\ & = \underline{10 + 2\sqrt{7}} \end{aligned}$$

To RATIONALISE THE denominator of $(x-\sqrt{y})$ multiply top & bottom by $(x+\sqrt{y})$

(3)

Question 2

(i) Simplify $6\sqrt{2} \times 5\sqrt{3} - \sqrt{24}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{f.i)} \quad & 6\sqrt{2} \times 5\sqrt{3} - \sqrt{24} \\ & = 30\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{4}\sqrt{6} \\ & = 28\sqrt{6} \end{aligned}$$

(2)

(ii) Express $(2 - 3\sqrt{5})^2$ in the form $a + b\sqrt{5}$, where a and b are integers.

$$\begin{aligned} (2-3\sqrt{5})(2-3\sqrt{5}) & = 4 - 6\sqrt{5} - 6\sqrt{5} + 9 \times 5 \\ & = 49 - 12\sqrt{5}. \quad (3) \end{aligned}$$

(3)

5 Indices

Question 1

Find the value of the following.

(i) $\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{-2}$

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{-2} &= \left(\frac{3}{1}\right)^2 \\ &= 3^2 \\ &= 9 \end{aligned}$$

(2)

(ii) $16^{\frac{3}{4}}$

$$\begin{aligned} 16^{\frac{3}{4}} &= \left(16^{\frac{1}{4}}\right)^3 \\ &= (2)^3 \\ &= 8 \end{aligned}$$

(2)

Question 2

(i) Find a , given that $a^3 = 64x^{12}y^3$

$$\begin{aligned} a^3 &= 64x^{12}y^3 \\ &= 4^3(x^4)^3y^3 \\ &= (4x^4y)^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{a = 4x^4y}$$

(2)

(ii) $\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{-5}$

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{-5} &= \left(\frac{2}{1}\right)^5 \\ &= 2^5 \\ &= 32 \end{aligned}$$

Negative index inverts the fraction

(2)

Question 3

Simplify $\frac{16^{\frac{1}{2}}}{81^{\frac{3}{4}}}$

$$\frac{16^{\frac{1}{2}}}{81^{\frac{3}{4}}} = \frac{\sqrt{16}}{\sqrt[4]{81^3}} = \frac{4}{3^3} = \frac{4}{27}$$

(2)



Total / 10

6 Properties of Lines

Question 1

The points A (-1,6), B (1,0) and C (13,4) are joined by straight lines. Prove that AB and BC are perpendicular.

$$\text{Grad of AB} = \frac{0-6}{1-(-1)} = -3$$

$$\text{Grad of BC} = \frac{4-0}{13-1} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\text{Product of gradients is} = -3 \times \frac{1}{3} = -1. \quad \text{Hence AB and BC are perpendicular.}$$

(2)

Question 2

A and B are points with coordinates (-1,4) and (7,8) respectively. Find the coordinates of the midpoint, M, of AB.

$$\text{Midpoint is } \left(\frac{7+(-1)}{2}, \frac{8+4}{2} \right) = (3, 6)$$

(1)

Question 3

A line has gradient -4 and passes through the point (2,-6). Find the coordinates of its points of intersection with the axes.

$$\text{Equation of line is } (y - (-6)) = -4(x - 2) \quad \text{ie } y = -4x + 2$$

$$x = 0 \rightarrow y = 2 \quad \text{Coordinates } (0, 2)$$

$$y = 0 \rightarrow x = 0.5 \quad \text{Coordinates } (0.5, 0)$$

(4)

Question 4

Find the equation of the line which is parallel to $y = 3x + 1$ and which passes through the point with coordinates (4,5).

Gradient 3

$$(y - 5) = 3(x - 4)$$

$$\rightarrow y = 3x - 7$$

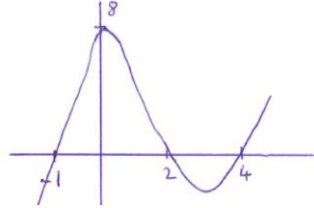
(3)

Total / 10

7 Sketching curves

Question 1

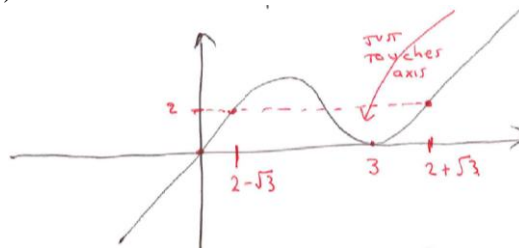
You are given that $f(x) = (x + 1)(x - 2)(x - 4)$. Sketch the graph of $y = f(x)$



(3)

Question 2

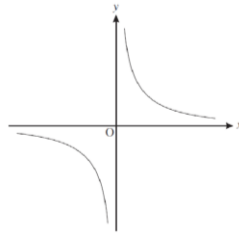
Sketch the graph of $y = x(x - 3)^2$



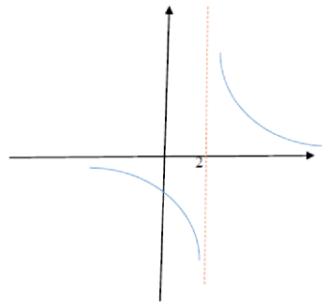
(3)

Question 3

This diagram shows a sketch of the graph of $y = \frac{1}{x}$



Sketch the graph of $y = \frac{1}{x-2}$, showing clearly any points where it crosses the axes.

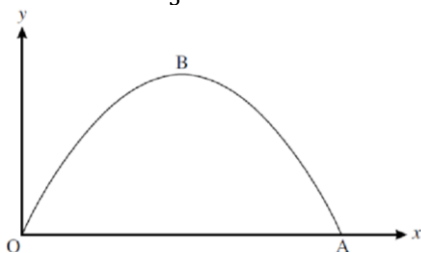


(0, -0.5)

(3)

Question 4

This curve has equation $y = \frac{1}{5}x(10 - x)$. State the value of x at the point A.



$$y = \frac{x}{5} (10 - x)$$

$$x = 10 \quad (61)$$

(1)

8 **Transformation of functions**

Question 1

The graph of $y = x^2 - 8x + 25$ is translated by $(0 \ -20)$. State an equation for the resultant graph.

$$| \quad y = x^2 - 8x + 25 - 20$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \underline{y = x^2 - 8x + 5}$$

(1)

Question 2

$$f(x) = x^3 - 5x + 2$$

$$\text{Show that } f(x - 3) = x^3 - 9x^2 + 22x - 10$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x - 3) &= (x - 3)^3 - 5(x - 3) + 2 \\ &= (x^2 - 6x + 9)(x - 3) - 5x + 15 + 2 \\ &= x^3 - 3x^2 - 6x^2 + 18x + 9x - 27 - 5x + 15 + 2 \\ &= x^3 - 9x^2 + 22x - 10 \end{aligned}$$

(4)

Question 3

$$\text{You are given that } f(x) = 2x^3 + 7x^2 - 7x - 12$$

$$\text{Show that } f(x - 4) = 2x^3 - 17x^2 + 33x$$

$$\begin{aligned} | \quad f(x - 4) &= (x - 4 + 4)(2(x - 4) - 3)(x - 4 + 1) \\ &= x(2x - 8 - 3)(x - 3) \\ &= x(2x - 11)(x - 3) \\ &= x(2x^2 - 11x - 6x + 33) \\ &= \underline{2x^3 - 17x^2 + 33x} \end{aligned}$$

(3)

Question 4

You are given that $f(x) = (x + 1)(x - 2)(x - 4)$. The graph of $y = f(x)$ is translated by $(3 \ 0)$.

State an equation for the resulting graph. You need not simplify your answer.

(2)

$$(x + 1 - 3)(x - 2 - 3)(x - 4 - 3)$$

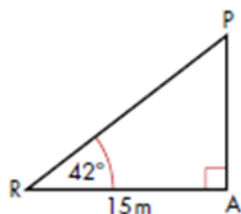
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$$(x - 2)(x - 5)(x - 7)$$

9 Trigonometric ratios

Question 1

AP is a telephone pole. The angle of elevation of the top of the pole from the point R on the ground is 42° as seen in the diagram.



Calculate the height of the pole. Give your answer to 3 significant figures.

$$\tan 42^\circ = \frac{\text{opp}}{\text{adj}} \quad (\text{M1})$$

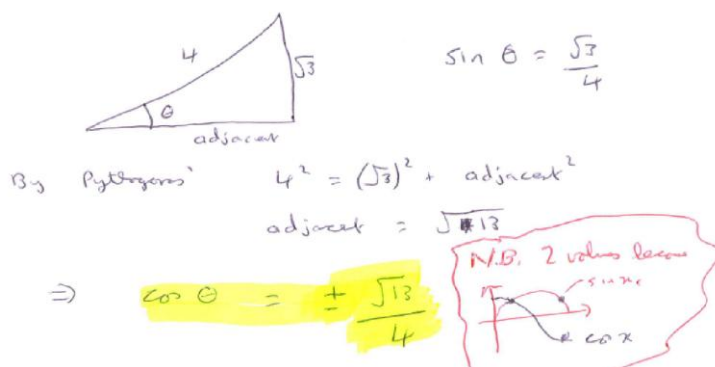
$$0.9004 = \frac{\text{height of pole}}{15} \quad (\text{M1})$$

$$13.5(06) \text{ m} = \text{height of pole} \quad (\text{A1})$$

(3)

Question 2

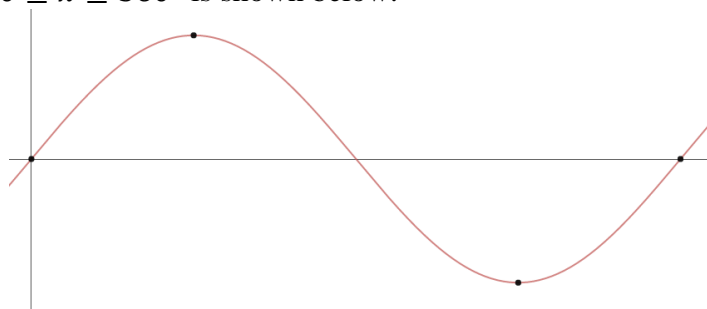
Given that $\sin \theta = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}$, find in surd form the possible values of $\cos \theta$.



(3)

Question 3

The graph of $y = \sin x$ for $0 \leq x \leq 360^\circ$ is shown below.



What are the coordinates of the 4 points labelled on the graph?

(.....0.....,.....0.....)
 (90.....,1.....)
 (270.....,-1.....)
 (360.....,0.....)

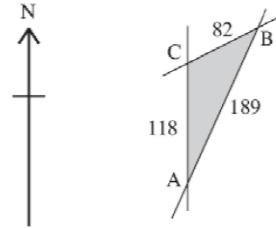
(4)

Total / 10

10 Sine / Cosine Rule

Question 1

This diagram shows a village green which is bordered by 3 straight roads AB, BC and CA. The road AC runs due North and the measurements are shown in metres.



Not to scale

- (i) Calculate the bearing of B from C, giving your answer to the nearest 0.1°

$$\cos C = \frac{82^2 + 118^2 - 189^2}{2 \times 82 \times 118} = -0.778$$

$$C = \cos^{-1}(-0.778)$$

$$= 141.1^\circ$$

$$\text{Bearing} = 180 - 141.1^\circ = 38.9^\circ$$

(4)

- (ii) Calculate the area of the village green.

$$\text{Area} = \frac{1}{2} bc \sin A$$

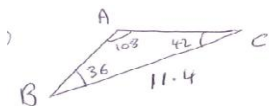
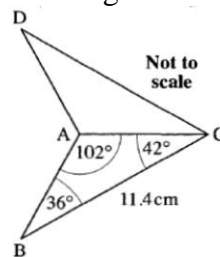
$$= \frac{1}{2} \times 82 \times 118 \times \sin 141.1^\circ$$

$$= 3032$$

(2)

Question 2

This diagram shows a logo ABCD. It is symmetrical about AC. Find the length of AB and hence find the area of the logo



By the Sine Rule,

$$\frac{AB}{\sin 42} = \frac{11.4}{\sin 102}$$

$$\Rightarrow AB = \frac{11.4 \times \sin 42}{\sin 102} = 7.798$$

$$\text{Area of logo} = 2 \times \text{Area of Triangle}$$

$$= 2 \times \frac{1}{2} ac \sin B$$

$$= 11.4 \times 7.798 \times \sin 36$$

$$= 52.2$$

(4)

Total / 10

