

A LEVEL Cambridge Topical Past Papers

PURE MATHEMATICS 3

2017 — 2023

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1 - (9709/31_Summer_2017_Q1) - Algebra

Solve the inequality $|2x + 1| < 3|x - 2|$.

[4]

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2 - (9709/31_Summer_2017_Q2) - Algebra

Expand $\frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{1+6x}}$ in ascending powers of x , up to and including the term in x^3 , simplifying the coefficients. [4]

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3 - (9709/32_Summer_2017_Q2) - Algebra

Solve the inequality $|x - 3| < 3x - 4$.

[4]

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4 - (9709/32_Summer_2017_Q8) - Algebra

$$\text{Let } f(x) = \frac{5x^2 - 7x + 4}{(3x + 2)(x^2 + 5)}.$$

(i) Express $f(x)$ in partial fractions. [5]

(ii) Hence obtain the expansion of $f(x)$ in ascending powers of x , up to and including the term in x^2 . [5]

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5 - (9709/33_Summer_2017_Q2) - Algebra

Expand $(3 + 2x)^{-3}$ in ascending powers of x up to and including the term in x^2 , simplifying the coefficients. [4]

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ANSWERS

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1 - (9709/31_Summer_2017_Q1) - Algebra

EITHER: State or imply non-modular inequality $(2x+1)^2 < (3(x-2))^2$, or corresponding quadratic equation, or pair of linear equations $(2x+1) = \pm 3(x-2)$	(B1)
Make reasonable solution attempt at a 3-term quadratic e.g. $5x^2 - 40x + 35 = 0$ or solve two linear equations for x	M1
Obtain critical values $x = 1$ and $x = 7$	A1
State final answer $x < 1$ and $x > 7$	A1)
OR: Obtain critical value $x = 7$ from a graphical method, or by inspection, or by solving a linear equation or inequality	(B1)
Obtain critical value $x = 1$ similarly	B2
State final answer $x < 1$ and $x > 7$	B1)
Total:	4

2 - (9709/31_Summer_2017_Q2) - Algebra

EITHER: State a correct unsimplified version of the x or x^2 or x^3 term in the expansion of $(1+6x)^{-\frac{1}{3}}$	(M1)
State correct first two terms $1 - 2x$	A1
Obtain term $8x^2$	A1
Obtain term $-\frac{112}{3}x^3$ $\left(37\frac{1}{3}x^3\right)$ in final answer	A1)
OR: Differentiate expression and evaluate $f(0)$ and $f'(0)$, where $f'(x) = k(1+6x)^{-\frac{4}{3}}$	(M1)
Obtain correct first two terms $1 - 2x$	A1
Obtain term $8x^2$	A1
Obtain term $-\frac{112}{3}x^3$ in final answer	A1)
Total:	4

3 - (9709/32_Summer_2017_Q2) - Algebra

<i>EITHER:</i> State or imply non-modular inequality $(x-3)^2 < (3x-4)^2$, or corresponding equation	(B1)
Make reasonable attempt at solving a three term quadratic	M1
Obtain critical value $x = \frac{7}{4}$	A1
State final answer $x > \frac{7}{4}$ only	A1)
<i>OR1:</i> State the relevant critical inequality $3-x < 3x-4$, or corresponding equation	(B1)
Solve for x	M1
Obtain critical value $x = \frac{7}{4}$	A1
State final answer $x > \frac{7}{4}$ only	A1)
<i>OR2:</i> Make recognizable sketches of $y = x-3 $ and $y = 3x-4$ on a single diagram	(B1)
Find x -coordinate of the intersection	M1
Obtain $x = \frac{7}{4}$	A1
State final answer $x > \frac{7}{4}$ only	A1)
Total:	4

4 - (9709/32_Summer_2017_Q8) - Algebra

(i)	State or imply the form $\frac{A}{3x+2} + \frac{Bx+C}{x^2+5}$	B1
	Use a relevant method to determine a constant	M1
	Obtain one of the values $A = 2, B = 1, C = -3$	A1
	Obtain a second value	A1
	Obtain the third value	A1
	Total:	5
(ii)	Use correct method to find the first two terms of the expansion of $(3x+2)^{-1}, (1+\frac{3}{2}x)^{-1}, (5+x^2)^{-1}$ or $(1+\frac{1}{5}x^2)^{-1}$ [Symbolic coefficients, e.g. $\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ are not sufficient]	M1
	Obtain correct unsimplified expansions up to the term in x^2 of each partial fraction. The FT is on A, B, C . from part (i)	A1FT + A1FT
	Multiply out up to the term in x^2 by $Bx+C$, where $BC \neq 0$	M1
	Obtain final answer $\frac{2}{5} - \frac{13}{10}x + \frac{237}{100}x^2$, or equivalent	A1
	Total:	5