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MATHEMATICS

MARKING GUIDELINE

GRADE 11: CYCLE TEST

FEB 2026 TERM 1

TIME: 1 HOUR

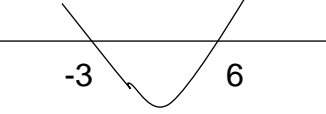
TOTAL MARKS: 50

NOTE:

- If a candidate answered a question TWICE, mark only the first attempt.
- Consistent accuracy applies in ALL aspects of the marking memorandum.
- Assuming values/answers to solve a problem is unacceptable

QUESTION 1

1.1.1	$x(x - 1)(3x + 1) = 0$ $x = 0 \checkmark$ or $x = 1 \checkmark$ or $x = -\frac{1}{3} \checkmark$	3A x – values	(3)
1.1.2	$2x^2 - 3x = 0$ $x(2x - 3) = 0 \checkmark$ $x = 0$ or $x = \frac{3}{2} \checkmark$	1A factorizing 1CA both x -values	(2)
1.1.3	$(x + 3)(x - 1) = -x + 1$ $x^2 + 2x - 3 + x - 1 = 0$ $x^2 + 3x - 4 = 0 \checkmark$ $(x + 4)(x - 1) = 0$ $x = -4 \checkmark$ or $x = 1 \checkmark$	1MA standard form 1CA factorising 2CA x -values	(4)
1.1.4	$3x^2 - 4x = 5$ $3x^2 - 4x - 5 = 0 \checkmark$ $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$ $= \frac{-(-4) \pm \sqrt{(-4)^2 - 4(3)(-5)}}{2(3)} \checkmark$ $= \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{16 + 60}}{6} \checkmark$ $x = 2,1$ or $-0,8 \checkmark$	1MA standard form 1A substitution in correct Formula 1CA simplify 1CA both x values	(4)

<p>1.1.5</p>	$x^2 > 3(x + 6)$ $x^2 - 3x - 18 > 0 \checkmark$ $(x - 6)(x + 3) > 0 \checkmark$  <p>Or</p> $x < -3 \checkmark \text{ or } x > 6 \checkmark$ $x \in (-\infty; -3) \checkmark \cup (6; \infty) \checkmark$	<p>1A std form 1MA factors</p> <p>1CA $x < -3$ or $(-\infty; -3)$ 1CA $x > 6$ or $(6; \infty)$</p>	<p>(4)</p>
<p>1.1.6</p>	$x^2 + 3x - \frac{9}{x^2 + 3x} = 8$ <p>Let $k = x^2 + 3x$</p> $k^2 - 8k - 9 = 0 \checkmark$ $(k - 9)(k + 1) = 0$ $k = 9 \text{ or } k = -1 \checkmark$ <p>$9 = x^2 + 3x$ or $-1 = x^2 + 3x \checkmark$</p> $x^2 + 3x - 9 = 0$ $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$ $= \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{3^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot -9}}{2 \cdot 1}$ $= \frac{-3 \pm 3\sqrt{5}}{2}$ $x = 1,85 \text{ or } -4,85 \checkmark$ <p>Or</p> $x^2 + 3x + 1 = 0$ $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$ $= \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{3^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot 1}}{2 \cdot 1}$ $= \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$ $x = -0,38 \text{ or } -2,62 \checkmark$	<p>1MA standard form</p> <p>1CA both values of k</p> <p>1CA substitute both values of k</p> <p>1CA x - values for $k = 9$</p> <p>1CA x - values for $k = -1$</p>	<p>(5)</p>

1.2	$6x^2 + dx - 12$ $= (2x - 3)(3x + 4)$ $= 6x^2 - 9x + 8x - 12$ $\therefore d = -1 \checkmark \checkmark$ <p>Or</p> $2x - 3$ $\therefore x = \frac{3}{2}$ <p>Sub x</p> $6\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 + d\frac{3}{2} - 12 = 0$ $= \frac{27}{2} + \frac{3}{2}d - 12$ $\frac{3}{2}d = -\frac{3}{2}$ $\therefore d = -1 \checkmark \checkmark$	2MA answer	(2)
1.3	$2x + y = 3 \text{ and } 2y + 2x^2 - 5 = -x$ $y = 3 - 2x \checkmark \text{ or } y = -2x + 3$ $2(3 - 2x) \checkmark + 2x^2 - 5 = -x$ $6 - 4x + 2x^2 - 5 + x = 0$ $2x^2 - 3x + 1 = 0 \checkmark$ $(2x - 1)(x - 1) = 0$ $x = \frac{1}{2} \text{ or } x = 1 \checkmark$ $y = 3 - 2\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \text{ or } y = 3 - 2(1)$ $y = 2 \quad \text{or} \quad y = 1 \checkmark$	1A $y = 3 - 2x$ or $y = -2x + 3$ 1CA substitution 1CA standard form 1CA both values of x 1CA both values of y	(4)
			[28]

QUESTION 2

2.1.1	$x^{-\frac{3}{4}} = 27$ $x = (3^3)^{-\frac{4}{3}} \checkmark$ $x = 3^{-3}$ $x = \frac{1}{27} \checkmark$	<p>1M multiply with the exponent inverse</p> <p>1CA answer</p>	(2)
2.1.2	$3^{2x+1} + 4 \cdot 3^{2x} = 21$ $3^{2x} \cdot 3^1 + 4 \cdot 3^{2x} = 21$ $3^{2x} \checkmark (3 + 4) = 21$ $3^{2x} (7) = 21$ $3^{2x} = 3 \checkmark$ $\therefore 2x = 1 \checkmark$ $x = \frac{1}{2} \checkmark$	<p>1A common factor</p> <p>1M simplify 1M exponent 1CA answer</p>	(4)
2.1.3	$\frac{54^m - 18^{m-1} \cdot 3^{m+1}}{(3^{m-1})^2 \cdot 6^m}$ $= \frac{(2 \times 3^3)^m - (2 \times 3^2)^{m-1} \cdot 3^{m+1}}{3^{2m-2} \cdot (2 \times 3)^m} \checkmark$ $= \frac{2^m \cdot 3^{3m} - 2^{m-1} \times 3^{2m-2} \cdot 3^{m+1}}{3^{2m-2} \cdot 2^m \times 3^m}$ $= \frac{2^m \cdot 3^{3m} - 2^m \cdot 2^{-1} \cdot 3^{3m} \cdot 3^{-1}}{3^{3m} \cdot 2^m \times 3^{-2}} \checkmark$ $= \frac{2^m \cdot 3^{3m} \checkmark (1 - \frac{1}{6}) \checkmark}{2^m \cdot 3^{3m} \cdot \frac{1}{9}} \checkmark$ $= \frac{5}{6} \times \frac{9}{1} \checkmark$ $= \frac{15}{2} \checkmark$	<p>1A prime factors</p> <p>1A simplification</p> <p>1CA common factor</p> <p>1CA simplification</p> <p>1M multiply with inverse</p> <p>1CA answer</p>	(6)

2.2.1	$\sqrt[3]{125x^6} - \sqrt[4]{81x^8} + \sqrt{36x^4}$ $= 5x^2 \checkmark - 3x^2 \checkmark + 6x^2 \checkmark$ $= 8x^2 \checkmark$	3MA simplification of each term	(3)
.2.2	$\sqrt{x-1} + 3 = x$ $(\sqrt{x-1})^2 = (x-3)^2 \checkmark$ $x-1 = x^2 - 6x + 9$ $x^2 - 6x + 9 - x + 1 = 0$ $x^2 - 7x + 10 = 0$ $(x-5)(x-2) = 0 \checkmark$ $x = 5 \text{ or } x \neq 2 \checkmark$ $\text{or } x = 2 \text{ N/A}$	1A squaring 1CA factorising 1CA answer $x = 5 \text{ or } x \neq 2$ Or just $\therefore x = 5$ Or If not $x \neq 2$ then NO mark for answer	(3)
2.2.3	$\frac{y-25}{\sqrt{y}+5}$ $= \frac{y-25}{\sqrt{y}+5} \times \frac{\sqrt{y}-5}{\sqrt{y}-5} \checkmark$ $= \frac{y\sqrt{y}-5y-25\sqrt{y}+25 \checkmark}{y-25 \checkmark}$	1MA multiply with conjugate 1CA answer numerator 1CA answer denominator	(3)
			[22]
			[50]

TAXONOMY LEVELS					
GRADE 11					
MATHEMATICS					
CYCLE TEST TERM 1					
QUESTION	KNOWLEDGE	ROUTINE PROCEDURES	COMPLEX PROCEDURES	PROBLEM SOLVING	TOTAL
DESIRED %	20%	35%	30%	15%	100%
1.1.1	3				3
1.1.2		2			2
1.1.3			4		4
1.1.4		4			4
1.1.5		4			4
1.1.6			5		5
1.2				2	2
1.3				4	4
2.1.1	2				2
2.1.2		4			4
2.1.3			6		6
2.2.1	4				4
2.2.2		3			3
2.2.3				3	3
Total	9	17	15	9	50
Actual %	18.00	34.00	30	18	100
Desired %	20%	35%	30%	15%	100