

ACHIEVEMENT QUESTIONS ON A TYPICAL NCEA PAPER. (B)

ALGEBRA

Question ONE

(a) Simplify $(2a)^3(3a)^2$

$$= 8a^3 \times 9a^2$$

$$= 72a^5$$

(b) Simplify $(16x^8)^{\frac{1}{2}}$

$$= 4x^4$$

Question TWO

(a) Factorise $3x^2 + 2x - 8$

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

(b) Solve $3x^2 + 2x - 8 = 0$

$$(3x - 4)(x + 2) = 0$$

$$\text{so } x = \frac{4}{3} \text{ and } -2$$

Question THREE

(a) Solve for x : $\log_3 x = 2$

$$3^2 = x$$

$$x = 9$$

(b) Solve for x : $\log_x 36 = 2$

$$x^2 = 36$$

$$x = 6$$

CALCULUS

Question ONE

(a) If $f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 + 4x + 5$ find the gradient of the tangent when $x = 1$

$$\text{grad } f' = 3x^2 - 4x + 4$$

$$\text{Sub } x = 1$$

$$\text{grad} = 3 - 4 + 4 = 3$$

(b) The gradient function $f'(x) = 6x^2 - 8x$. The graph passes through $(1, 4)$, find the equation for $f(x)$

$$f = 2x^3 - 4x^2 + c$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Sub } (1, 4) \\ 4 &= 2 - 4 + c \quad \text{so } c = 6 \\ \text{eqn is } f(x) &= 2x^3 - 4x^2 + 6 \end{aligned}$$

Question TWO

(a) Find the x coordinate of the point on the graph $y = x^2 + 2x + 9$ where the gradient is equal to 3

$$\begin{aligned} y' &= 2x + 2 = 3 \\ 2x &= 1 \\ x &= \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

(b) Find the x coordinate of the points on the graph $y = \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^2}{2} - 12x + 5$ where the gradient is equal to 0

$$\begin{aligned} y' &= x^2 - x - 12 = 0 \\ (x+3)(x-4) &= 0 \\ x &= -3 \text{ and } x = 4 \end{aligned}$$

Question THREE

(a) The curve $y = f(x)$ goes through $(0, 0)$ and $f'(x) = 6 - 4x$. Find the y value if $x = \frac{1}{2}$

$$f = 6x - 2x^2 + c$$

$$\text{Sub } (0, 0) \quad c = 0$$

$$f = 6x - 2x^2$$

$$\text{Sub } x = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f &= 3 - 2 \times \frac{1}{4} = 3 - \frac{1}{2} \\ &= 2\frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

(b) If $R = 3t^2 + 4t$, find the rate of increase of R at $t = 4$ seconds.

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = 6t + 4$$

$$\text{Sub } t = 4, \text{ rate} = 24 + 4$$

$$= 28$$