

5(e)

(i)

$$\frac{2}{x^2 - 1} \equiv \frac{a}{x - 1} + \frac{b}{x + 1}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 = a(x + 1) + b(x - 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow (a + b)x + a - b = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} a + b = 0 \\ a - b = 2 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 1, b = -1$$

(ii)

$$A = (2, \frac{7}{3}) \text{ and } B = (3, \frac{3}{2})$$

Equation of line joining AB is:

$$\frac{y - \frac{3}{2}}{x - 3} = \frac{\frac{3}{2} - \frac{7}{3}}{3 - 2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{y - \frac{3}{2}}{x - 3} = -\frac{5}{6}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = -\frac{5}{6}(x - 3) + \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = -\frac{5}{6}x + 4$$

Note that:

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 + 3}{x^2 - 1} = 1 + \frac{4}{x^2 - 1} = 1 + \frac{2}{x - 1} - \frac{2}{x + 1}$$

$$\text{Area} = \int_2^3 \left[-\frac{5}{6}x + 4 - f(x) \right] dx$$

$$= \int_2^3 \left[-\frac{5}{6}x + 3 - \frac{2}{x - 1} + \frac{2}{x + 1} \right] dx$$

$$= \left[-\frac{5}{12}x^2 + 3x - 2 \ln(x - 1) + 2 \ln(x + 1) \right]_2^3$$

$$= \left[-\frac{5}{12}x^2 + 3x + 2 \ln\left(\frac{x + 1}{x - 1}\right) \right]_2^3$$

$$= -\frac{25}{12} + 3 + 2 \ln\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)$$

$$= \frac{11}{12} - 2 \ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)$$

$$\approx 0.1057$$