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<b>08</b>	<b>1a</b>	Evaluate $2 \cos \frac{\pi}{5}$ correct to three significant figures.	<b>2</b>
$2 \cos \frac{\pi}{5} = 1.618033989 \dots$ $= 1.62$ <p>[Change your calculator to Radian mode, or use <math>\frac{\pi}{5} = 36^\circ</math>]</p>			

\* These solutions have been provided by *projectmaths* and are not supplied or endorsed by the Board of Studies

**Board of Studies: Notes from the Marking Centre**

Many candidates used the calculator incorrectly. The main error was to use degree mode in the calculation arriving at the incorrect answer of 1.999879... .

In weaker responses, candidates did not convert their answers to three significant figures and instead gave answers to three decimal places.

**Source:** [http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/hsc\\_exams/](http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/hsc_exams/)