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2015 11 Find $\int \frac{x}{x^2 - 3} dx$.
h

2

$$\begin{aligned}\int \frac{x}{x^2 - 3} dx &= \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{2x}{x^2 - 3} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \log_e(x^2 - 3) + c\end{aligned}$$

State Mean:
1.57

* These solutions have been provided by [projectmaths](#) and are not supplied or endorsed by BOSTES.

Board of Studies: Notes from the Marking Centre

(h) The majority of candidates recognised that the primitive was a log function.

Common problems were:

- incorrectly setting up $\int \frac{f'(x)}{f(x)} dx$, for example, using $2 \int \frac{2x}{x^2-3} dx$ or $2 \int \frac{x}{x^2-3} dx$
- incorrectly using or omitting brackets, for example $\frac{1}{2}(\ln x^2 - 3) + c$ or $\frac{1}{2} \ln x^2 - 3 + c$.