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99 2b (iii) Find
$$\int_{1}^{4} x^{2} + \sqrt{x} dx$$
.

$$\int_{1}^{4} x^{2} + \sqrt{x} dx = \int_{1}^{4} x^{2} + x^{\frac{1}{2}} dx$$

$$= \left[\frac{x^{3}}{3} + \frac{2x^{\frac{3}{2}}}{3} \right]_{1}^{4}$$

$$= \left[\frac{(4)^{3}}{3} + \frac{2(4)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{3} \right] - \left[\frac{(1)^{3}}{3} + \frac{2(1)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{3} \right]$$

$$= 25\frac{2}{3}$$

Board of Studies: Notes from the Marking Centre

The better responses in this part involved a fully worked solution displaying four steps,

firstly a preparation step involving rewriting \sqrt{x} as $x^{\frac{1}{2}}$, followed by a primitive consisting of two terms, a substitution of correct limits into the primitive with clear indication of signs and brackets, and finally a careful computation of fractions. Candidates were more successful when they explicitly showed the substitution of their limits.

Incorrect primitives of $x^{\frac{1}{2}}$ included $\frac{3}{2}x^{\frac{3}{2}}$ or $x^{\frac{3}{2}}$ and some candidates differentiated both terms. Other common errors resulted from the incorrect evaluation of terms with fractional exponents.

Source: http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/hsc_exams/

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