

The polynomial $p(x)$ is defined by

$$p(x) = 2x^3 + ax^2 - 3x - 4,$$

where a is a constant. It is given that $(x - 4)$ is a factor of $p(x)$.

- (a)** Find the value of a and hence factorise $p(x)$. [4]

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

(b) Show that the equation $p(e^{3y}) = 0$ has only one real root and find its exact value. [3]

This image shows a full page of a handwriting practice worksheet. It consists of multiple sets of three horizontal dashed lines, providing a guide for letter height and placement. The lines are evenly spaced across the entire page, leaving ample room for writing practice. There is no text or other markings on the page.