## Q1(1):

Sum of roots= $\alpha + \beta = -\frac{-1}{3} = \frac{1}{3}$  and product of roots= $\alpha \beta = \frac{-3}{3} = -1$ .

Then, 
$$\alpha^2 + \beta^2 = (\alpha + \beta)^2 - 2\alpha\beta = (\frac{1}{3})^2 - 2(-1) = \boxed{\frac{19}{9}}$$
.

**Alternative** As  $3x^2 - x - 3 = 0$ , we have  $x^2 = \frac{x+3}{3}$ .

Then, 
$$\alpha^2 + \beta^2 = \frac{\alpha+3}{3} + \frac{\beta+3}{3} = \frac{(\alpha+\beta)+6}{3} = \frac{\frac{1}{3}+6}{3} = \boxed{\frac{19}{9}}.$$

## Q1(2):

$$-x < x^2 < 2x + 1$$

$$-x < x^2 \text{ and } x^2 < 2x + 1$$

$$x(x+1)>0$$
 and  $(x-\frac{2+\sqrt{2^2-4(1)(-1)}}{2})(x-\frac{2-\sqrt{2^2-4(1)(-1)}}{2})<0$ 

$$(x < -1 \text{ or } x > 0) \text{ and } 1 - \sqrt{2} < x < 1 + \sqrt{2}$$

$$0 < x < 1 + \sqrt{2}$$

## Q1(3):

For  $0 < \alpha, \beta < 90^{\circ}$ , we have  $\cos \alpha > 0$  and  $\sin \beta > 0$ .

Then, by the identity  $\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$ , we have:

$$\cos \alpha = \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 \alpha} = \sqrt{1 - (\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}})^2} = \sqrt{\frac{4}{5}} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$\sin \beta = \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \beta} = \sqrt{1 - (\frac{3}{\sqrt{10}})^2} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{10}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}}$$

Then,  $\sin(\alpha + \beta) = \sin \alpha \cos \beta + \sin \beta \cos \alpha$ 

$$= (\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}})(\frac{3}{\sqrt{10}}) + (\frac{1}{\sqrt{10}})(\frac{2}{\sqrt{5}})$$

$$= \frac{3}{5\sqrt{2}} + \frac{2}{5\sqrt{2}}$$
$$= \boxed{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}}.$$

(Note: Rationalisation is not necessary. After retionalisation, the answer will become  $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$ )

Q1(4):

$$3^n < 2^{100} < 3^{n+1} \iff n < \log_3 2^{100} < n+1 \iff n < 100(0.631) < n+1 \iff 62.1 < n < 63.1$$

As n is a natural number, we have only  $n = \boxed{63}$  satisfies the above inequality.

Q1(5):

$$x^2 - 4xy + 5y^2 + 2y - 4 = 0$$

$$(x - 2y)^2 + y^2 + 2y - 4 = 0$$

$$(x-2y)^2 + (y+1)^2 = 5$$

When x, y are integers, x-2y and y+1 are also integers, and the solutions are:

$$(x-2y,y+1)=(\pm 1,2),(\pm 1,-2),(\pm 2,1)$$
 and  $(\pm 2,-1).$ 

Note that for each solution, y obtains an integer value and so do x. Moreover, there are no duplicated solutions. Therefore, there are totally  $\boxed{8}$  pairs of (x, y).

Q2:

(1): As  $0 \le a \le 2$ , f(a) can be rewritten as

$$f(a) = \int_0^a |x(x-a)| dx + \int_a^2 |x(x-a)| dx.$$

As for the interval (0, a), x - a < 0, we have

$$\int_0^a |x(x-a)| dx = \int_0^a x(a-x) dx = \int_0^a (ax-x^2) dx = \frac{a}{2}x^2 - \frac{1}{3}x^3|_0^a = \frac{a^3}{2} - \frac{a^3}{3} = \frac{a^3}{6}$$

On the other hand, as for the interval (a, 2), x - a > 0, we have

$$\begin{split} & \int_{a}^{2} |x(x-a)| dx = \int_{a}^{2} x(x-a) dx = \int_{a}^{2} (x^{2} - ax) dx = \frac{1}{3}x^{3} - \frac{a}{2}x^{2}|_{a}^{2} \\ & = \frac{8}{3} - 2a - \frac{a^{3}}{3} + \frac{a^{3}}{2} = \frac{a^{3}}{6} - 2a + \frac{8}{3}. \end{split}$$

Combine the above, we have  $f(a) = \int_0^a |x(x-a)| dx + \int_a^2 |x(x-a)| dx$ =  $\frac{a^3}{6} + \frac{a^3}{6} - 2a + \frac{8}{3} = \left[\frac{a^3}{3} - 2a + \frac{8}{3}\right]$ .

(2): 
$$f'(a) = a^2 - 2$$
, where  $0 \le a \le 2$ .

To find the extremum of f(a), we set f'(a) = 0, then  $a = \sqrt{2}$ .

On the other hand, f''(a) = 2a.

Conduct the second derivative test:  $f''(\sqrt{2}) = 2\sqrt{2} > 0$ . Hence, f(a) attains to its minimum when  $a = \sqrt{2}$  and by that time, the minimum value of f(a) is  $f(\sqrt{2}) = \frac{(\sqrt{2})^3}{3} - 2\sqrt{2} + \frac{8}{3} = \boxed{\frac{8 - 4\sqrt{2}}{3}}$ .

Alternative to (2) See MEXT's official solution, which used the first derivative test instead.

Q3:

(1): By the recurrence, we have:

$$a_2 = |a_1| - 1 = |a| - 1 = a - 1$$

$$a_3 = |a_2| - 1 = |a - 1| - 1 = a - 2$$

$$a_4 = |a_3| - 1 = |a - 2| - 1 = 2 - a - 1 = \boxed{1 - a}$$
 (as  $a - 2 < 0$ )

$$a_5 = |a_4| - 1 = |1 - a| - 1 = a - 1 - 1 = \boxed{a - 2}$$
 (as  $1 - a < 0$ )

$$a_6 = |a_5| - 1 = |a - 2| - 1 = 2 - a - 1 = \boxed{1 - a}$$

$$a_7 = |a_6| - 1 = |1 - a| - 1 = a - 1 - 1 = a - 2$$

(2): Calculate directly, we have:

$$S_2 = a_1 + a_2 = a + a - 1 = \boxed{2a - 1}$$

$$S_4 = S_2 + a_3 + a_4 = 2a - 1 + a - 2 + 1 - a = \boxed{2a - 2}$$

$$S_6 = S_4 + a_5 + a_6 = 2a - 2 + a - 2 + 1 - a = 2a - 3$$

(3): Note that for an integer k > 2, we have  $a_{2k-1} = a-2$  and  $a_{2k} = 1-a$ .

Therefore,  $a_{2k-1} + a_{2k} = a - 2 + 1 - a = -1$  for all integers k > 2.

$$S_n = S_{2m}$$

$$= S_2 + (a_3 + a_4) + (a_5 + a_6) + \dots + (a_{2m-1} + a_{2m})$$

$$= (2a - 1) + \underbrace{(-1) + (-1) + \dots + (-1)}_{\text{m-1 terms}}$$
$$= 2a - 1 - (m - 1)$$

$$= \boxed{2a-m}$$
.

(4): 
$$S_n = S_{2m+1}$$

$$= S_{2m} + a_{2m+1}$$

$$= (2a - m) + (a - 2)$$

$$= 3a - m - 2$$