

Exercise 1. This is a very simple exercise. It doesn't have any sub-question. Is 57 prime?

Solution 1. Yes.

Exercise 2. This exercise has multiple sub-questions.

2.1 Give an explicit algebraic formula for $\cos \frac{2\pi}{17}$.

2.2 Find a polynomial of which $\cos \frac{\pi}{17}$ is a root.

These identities allowed Gauß to draw a *heptadecagon* (polygon with seventeen sides) from a ruler-and-compass construction.

2.3 Can all polygons be thus obtained?

Solution 2. These questions are related to some of the oldest problems in Mathematics. The problem of building a heptadecagon solely using a ruler and a compass was open for centuries. The first solution is due to Gauß. It was published in 1796 in his famous *Disquisitiones arithmeticae*.

2.1 We have

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \frac{2\pi}{17} = & \frac{1}{16} \left(\sqrt{17} - 1 + \sqrt{34 - 2\sqrt{17}} \right) \\ & + \frac{1}{8} \left(\sqrt{17 + 3\sqrt{17} - \sqrt{34 - 2\sqrt{17}} - 2\sqrt{34 + 2\sqrt{17}}} \right). \end{aligned}$$

2.2 One of the roots of

$$\begin{aligned} & 32768X^{16} - 131072X^{14} + 212992X^{12} - 180224X^{10} \\ & + 84480X^8 - 21504X^6 + 2688X^4 - 128X^2 + X + 1 \end{aligned}$$

is $\cos \frac{\pi}{17}$.

2.3 Unfortunately, no, by Wantzel's theorem.