

AQA AS Further Maths: Practice Paper 1

Focus: Pure

Difficulty: Hard

Time: 2 hours 30 minutes

Marks: (Recommended Timings)

Section A (multiple choice): 10 marks (15 minutes)

Section B (standard questions): 70 marks (1 hour 30 minutes)

Section C (extended question): 20 marks (45 minutes)

(Total 100 marks)

Grade Boundaries: (approximate)

A: 70 (70%)

B: 60 (60%)

C: 50 (50%)

D: 40 (40%)

E: 30 (30%)

Main Topics Examined:

Hyperbolic Functions, Proof by Induction, Graphs of Rational Functions, Complex Numbers, Polynomials, Further Vectors

Advice:

1. The questions in each section are in no particular order.
2. Questions are at A-level standard difficulty, with many above.
3. You may wish to take a short break between Sections B and C.
4. Plan your answers to Section C carefully before beginning.
5. Check the fully worked solutions for any questions you missed.

Section A: Multiple choice. You are advised to spend no more than **15 minutes** in Section A.

1. A student attempts to use proof by induction to show that $n^2 - n$ is odd for all $n \in \mathbb{R}$. They argue as follows:

Assume true for $n = k$, where k is a positive integer.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{For } k + 1, \text{ we have } (k + 1)^2 - (k + 1) &= k^2 + 2k + 1 - k - 1 \\ &= k^2 + k \\ &= k^2 - k + 2k\end{aligned}$$

which must be odd, since $k^2 - k$ is assumed to be odd and $2k$ is even.

Therefore, true for $n = k \Rightarrow$ true for $n = k + 1$.

Hence by induction, $n^2 - n$ is odd for all positive integers n .

What mistake has the student made in this argument?

- ☐ It was assumed that $k^2 - k$ is odd before it was proven
- ☐ The general form for an odd integer, i.e. $n = 2k + 1$, was not used
- ☐ The argument is incomplete since there is no established base case
- ☐ There is an algebraic error in the inductive step

[1 mark]

2. The polynomial $P(x)$ is given by $P(x) = x^2 + 5x + n$, where n is an integer.

The smallest value of n such that $P(x)$ has complex roots is

- ☐ 6
- ☐ $25/4$
- ☐ 7
- ☐ 25

[1 mark]

3. The circle C is defined as the plot of all z satisfying $|z - \sqrt{3} - i| = 1$ on an Argand diagram.

Which of the following is true?

- ☐ $|z|$ takes its minimum value on C when $z = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} + \frac{1}{2}i$.
- ☐ $\arg z$ takes its maximum value on C when $z = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - \frac{3}{2}i$.
- ☐ For all z on C , $\frac{3}{2} \leq |z| \leq \frac{7}{2}$.
- ☐ For all z on C , $-\frac{\pi}{6} \leq \arg z \leq \frac{\pi}{3}$. [1 mark]

4. The matrices \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} are defined in terms of a real parameter t by

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & t & 4 \\ 3 & 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 15 & -4 & -1 \\ -2t & 4 & 2 \\ 17 & -4 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Which of these is true?

- ☐ The determinant of \mathbf{A} is proportional to t .
- ☐ When $t = -1$ and $t = 4$, $\mathbf{AB} = 3(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B})$.
- ☐ When $t = 7$, $\mathbf{AB} = 4\mathbf{I}$.
- ☐ For all t , $\det(\mathbf{AB}) > \det(\mathbf{A}) \det(\mathbf{B})$. [1 mark]

5. The quadratic equation $z^2 + iz - 1 = 0$ has complex roots ω and σ .

Which of these is true?

- ☐ $\omega^* = \sigma$
- ☐ $\omega + \sigma = i$
- ☐ $\omega\sigma = -1$
- ☐ $\omega^2 + \sigma^2 = 2 - i$ [1 mark]

6. The roots of the equation $x^4 - px^3 + qx^2 - pqx + 1 = 0$ are α , β , γ and δ .

What is the value of $(\alpha + \beta + \gamma)(\alpha + \beta + \delta)(\alpha + \gamma + \delta)(\beta + \gamma + \delta)$?

- ☐ -1
- ☐ 1
- ☐ pq
- ☐ p^2q^2

[1 mark]

7. The coefficient of x^3 in the Maclaurin series expansion of $\ln(1 - x)$ is

- ☐ $1/3$
- ☐ $-1/3$
- ☐ $1/6$
- ☐ $-1/6$

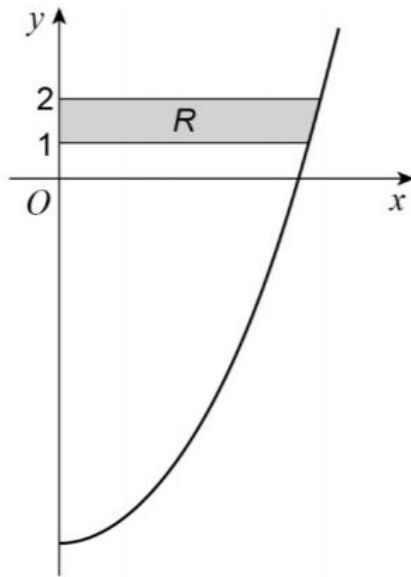
[1 mark]

8. Which of these is **not** an asymptote to the curve $y = \frac{1}{x^2 - 4}$?

- ☐ $x = 0$
- ☐ $y = 0$
- ☐ $x = 2$
- ☐ $x = -2$

[1 mark]

9. The diagram shows the curve $y = 18x^2 - 9$ for $x \geq 0$.



A solid is formed when the region R is rotated through 360° about the y -axis.

The volume of this solid is $k\pi$, where the value of k is

- ☐ $\frac{7}{6}$
- ☐ $\frac{7}{12}$
- ☐ 33
- ☐ $\frac{33}{4}$

[1 mark]

10. The coordinates of the points A and B are $(3, -2, 1)$ and $(5, 3, 0)$ respectively.

The line l has equation $\mathbf{r} = 5\mathbf{i} + 3\mathbf{j} + \lambda(\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{k})$.

The acute angle between l and the line AB , to 3 significant figures, is

- ☐ 16.8°
- ☐ 33.6°
- ☐ 56.4°
- ☐ 73.2°

[1 mark]

Section B: Standard questions. Ensure to leave sufficient time for Section C.

11. Matthew is finding a formula for the inverse function $\operatorname{arsinh} x$. He writes his steps as follows:

$$\text{Let } y = \sinh x$$

$$y = \frac{1}{2}(e^x - e^{-x})$$

$$2y = e^x - e^{-x}$$

$$0 = e^x - 2y - e^{-x}$$

$$0 = (e^x)^2 - 2ye^x - 1$$

$$0 = (e^x - y)^2 - y^2 - 1$$

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

$$\pm \sqrt{y^2 + 1} = e^x - y$$

$$y \pm \sqrt{y^2 + 1} = e^x$$

To find the inverse function, swap x and y : $x \pm \sqrt{x^2 + 1} = e^y$

$$\ln(x \pm \sqrt{x^2 + 1}) = y$$

$$\operatorname{arsinh} x = \ln(x \pm \sqrt{x^2 + 1})$$

- a. Identify, and explain, the error in Matthew's proof.

[2 marks]

b. Solve $\ln(x + \sqrt{x^2 + 1}) = 3$.

[1 mark]

c. Derive a similar formula for $\operatorname{arcosh} x$. Fully justify your answer.

[6 marks]

[Total for Q11: 9 marks]

12.

a. Prove by induction that, for all integers $n \geq 1$,

$$\sum_{r=1}^n r^3 = \frac{1}{4}n^2(n+1)^2$$

[4 marks]

b. **Hence** show that

$$\sum_{r=1}^{2n} r(r-1)(r+1) = n(n+1)(2n-1)(2n+1)$$

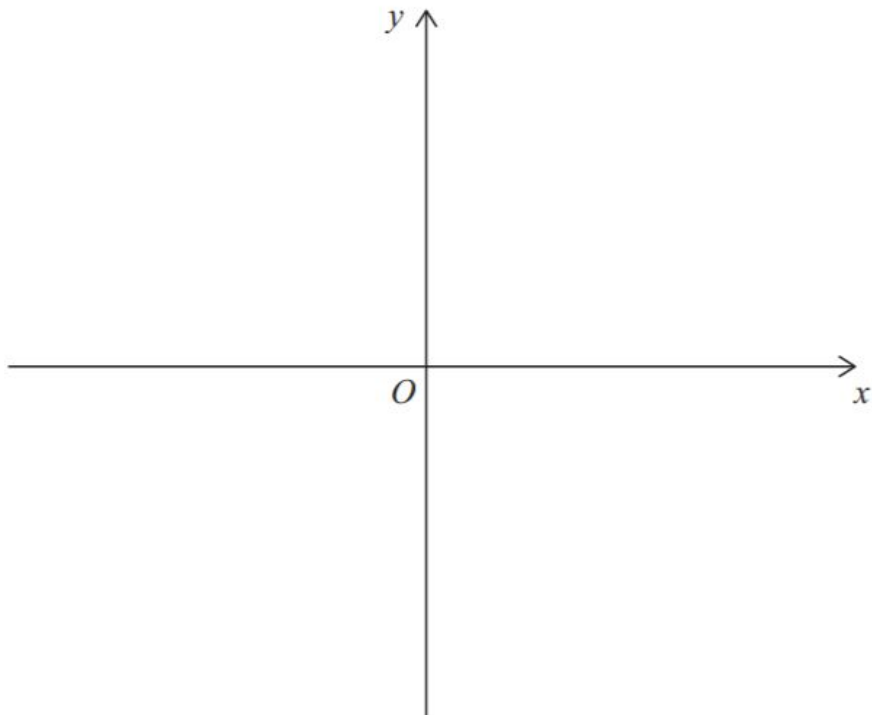
[4 marks]

[Total for Q12: 8 marks]

13. The graph of the rational function $y = f(x)$ intersects the x -axis exactly once at $(-3, 0)$. The graph has exactly two asymptotes, $y = 2$ and $x = 1$.

a. Find $f(x)$. [2 marks]

b. Sketch the graph of the function. [3 marks]



c. Find the range of values of x for which $f(x) \leq 5$.

[4 marks]

[Total for Q13: 9 marks]

14. There is a unique complex number w that satisfies both

$$|w - 3| = 2 \quad \text{and} \quad \arg(w + 1) = \alpha$$

where α is a constant such that $0 < \alpha < \pi$.

a. i) Find the value of α . [2 marks]

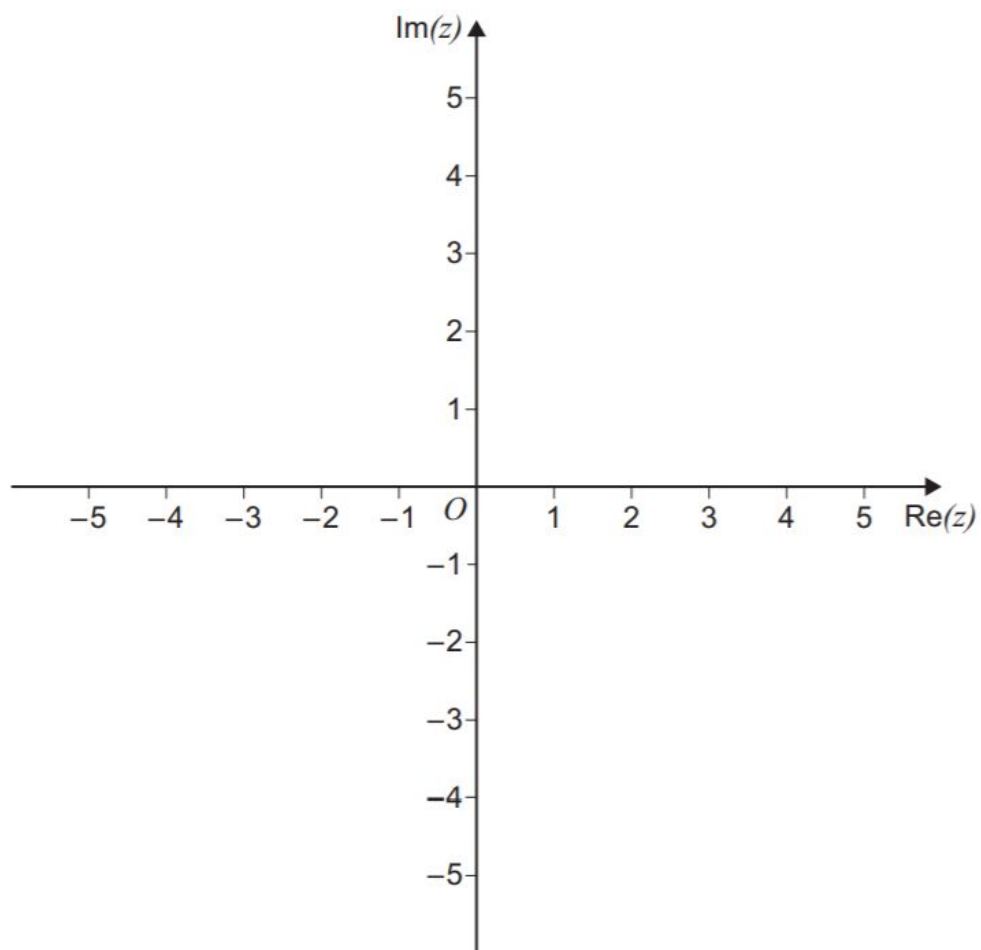
ii) Express w in the form $r(\cos \theta + i \sin \theta)$.

Give r in exact form and θ to two significant figures. [4 marks]

b. Consider the set

$$P = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : 3 \leq |z - 1 - i| \leq 4\}.$$

i) On the Argand diagram below, sketch the locus of $z \in P$. [3 marks]



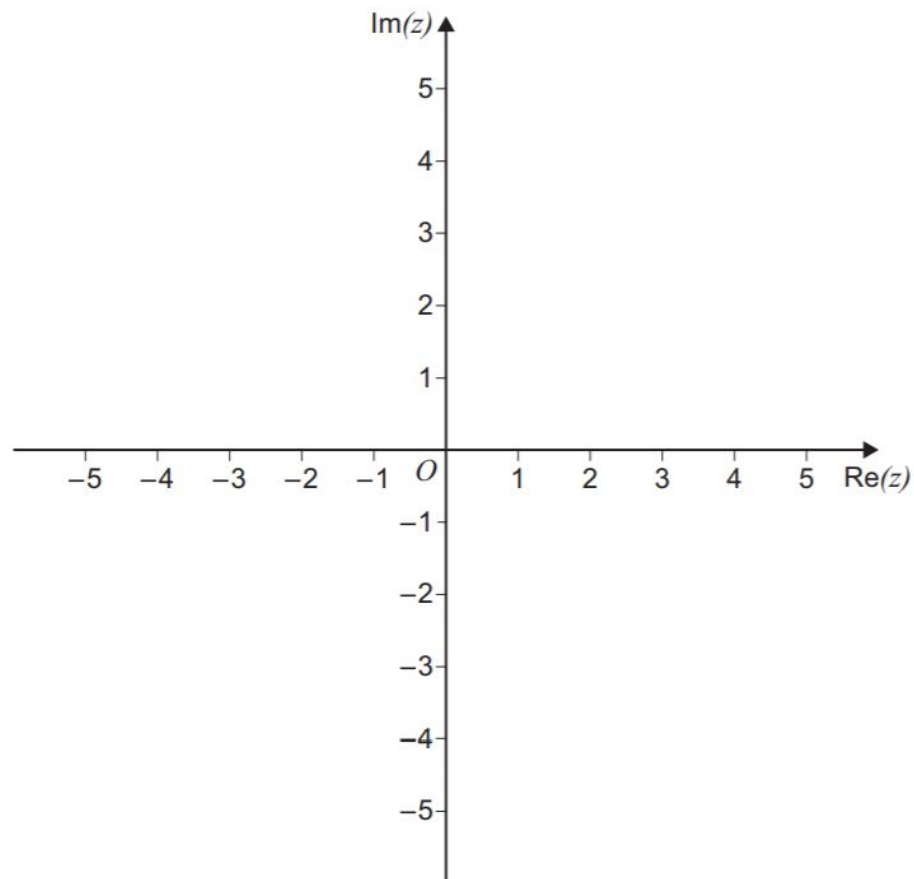
ii) Consider the set S defined as

$$S = P \cap \{z \in \mathbb{C} : 0 \leq \arg(z - 1 - i) \leq \frac{\pi}{3}\}.$$

Find the maximum value of $\operatorname{Re}(z) + \operatorname{Im}(z)$ for all $z \in S$.

Give your answer in exact form. The Argand diagram has been repeated below to help you.

[3 marks]



[Total for Q14: 12 marks]

15. α , β and γ are the real roots of the cubic equation $x^3 + mx^2 + nx + 2 = 0$.

By considering $(\alpha - \beta)^2 + (\beta - \gamma)^2 + (\gamma - \alpha)^2$, prove that $m^2 \geq 3n$.

Fully justify your answer.

[5 marks]

[Total for Q15: 5 marks]

16. This question is about modelling using vectors.

- a. A theme park has two zip wires. Sarah models the two zip wires as straight lines using coordinates in metres.

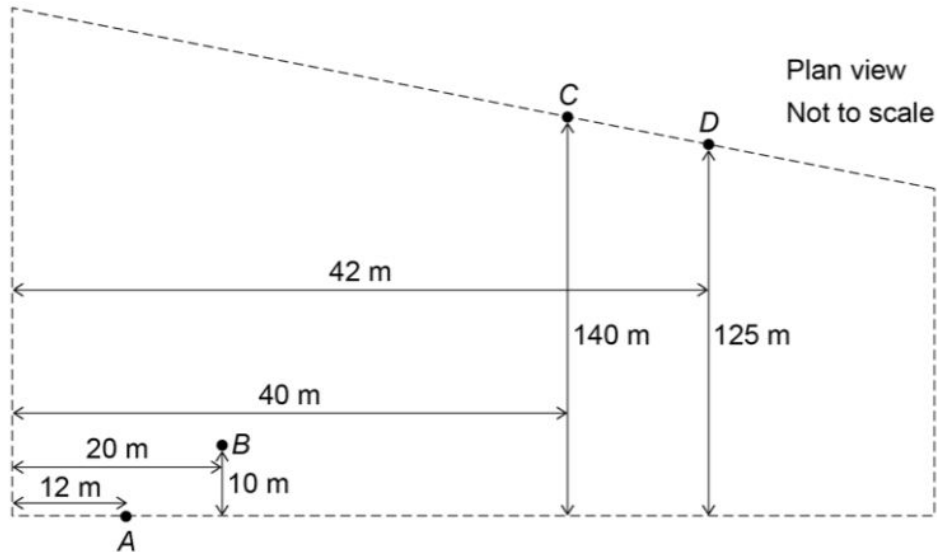
The ends of one wire are located at $(0, 0, 0)$ and $(0, 100, 20)$. The ends of the other wire are located at $(10, 0, 20)$ and $(10, 100, 5)$.

- i) Use Sarah's model to find the shortest distance between the zip wires.
[7 marks]

- ii) State one way in which Sarah's model could be refined. [1 mark]

- b. A lighting engineer is setting up part of a display inside a large building. The diagram shows a plan view of the area in which he is working. He has two lights, which project narrow beams of light.

One is set up at a point 3 metres above the point A and the beam from this light hits the wall 23 metres above the point D . The other is set up 1 metre above the point B and the beam from this light hits the wall 29 metres above the point C .



- i) By creating a suitable model, show that the beams of light intersect.

[6 marks]

ii) Find the acute angle between the two beams of light. [3 marks]

iii) State one way in which the model you created in part b.i) could be refined. [1 mark]

[Total for Q16: 18 marks]

17. Find all solutions to the equation $\sinh^2 2x - \cosh 2x = 1$.

Give your answers in the form $x = \frac{1}{2} \ln(a \pm \sqrt{b})$ where a and b are integers.

Fully justify your answer.

[9 marks]

[Total for Q17: 9 marks]

Section C: Extended question. Aim to spend no more than 45 minutes on this question.

18. In the Cartesian plane, circle C has equation $x^2 + y^2 - 8x = 0$ and hyperbola H has equation $4x^2 - 9y^2 = 36$.

A line L of positive gradient is tangent to H at point A and tangent to C at point B .

Find, in any order:

- an equation for L , in its simplest form
- the coordinates of the intersections of C and H , in exact form
- the area of the smaller region bounded by C and H , to 3 significant figures

Fully justify your answers. You are advised to plan your answer first below and continue on the pages that follow.

[20 marks]

Write your final answers on the last page in the spaces provided.

[More space for Q18]

[More space for Q18]

[More space for Q18]

[More space for Q18]

Equation for L :

Coordinates of intersections of C and H :

Specified area bounded by C and H :

[Total for Q18: 20 marks]

End of Questions

Question Sources

Q1,2,6,8-10: AQA AS Further Maths Past Paper

Q11-16: AQA AS Further Maths Past Paper

Q17: MEI Past Paper

Q18: IIT JEE

MEI is a maths-specific exam board.

IIT JEE is an exam in India.