2.

To find the vertical asymptote :
We must set the denominator equal to 0 and solve:
$a^4-256=0$
$(a^2-16)(a^2+16)=0$
$(a^2-16)=0$
$(a-4)(a+4)=0$
$a=4$ or $a=-4$
There is vertical asymptote at $a=4$ and at $a=-4$
To find the horizontal asymptote :
First we must compare the degrees of the polynomials.
The numerator contains a 3^{rd} degree polynomial while the denominator contains a 4^{th} degree polynomial.
Since the polynomial in the numerator is a lower degree than the denominator, the horizontal asymptote is located at $k=0$.
To find the oblique asymptote :
Since the degrees of the numerator are less than the degrees of the denominator, this rational does not have an oblique asymptote