

Scholarship

2014 Assessment Report

Calculus

COMMENTARY

Candidates seemed to cope with the change in examination format – options being provided was not new, but the format did change, with an option within each question. Candidates found the optional question on systems of equations harder than the rest of the options.

SCHOLARSHIP WITH OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

Candidates who were awarded Scholarship with Outstanding Performance typically:

- used insightful approaches to questions
- were purposeful in their work
- checked the validity of their answers
- considered special cases
- worked well with new mathematical contexts
- introduced new variables to simplify their working where appropriate.

SCHOLARSHIP

Candidates who were awarded Scholarship but not Scholarship with Outstanding Performance typically:

- used differentiation to confirm the solution of a differential equation
- could systematically describe roots of various forms
- had strong algebraic skills
- could use trigonometric identities in integration problems
- could recognise and use the exact values of trigonometric functions of special angles.

OTHER CANDIDATES

Candidates who were not awarded Scholarship or Scholarship with Outstanding Performance typically:

- gave numerical answers where exact forms were required
- attempted to solve the linear programming problem without inequalities
- made errors with the use of logarithms
- did not check and/or self-correct errors in working.