

Individual Events

SI	A	20	I1	n	10	I2	a	48	I3	a	2	I4	A	40	I5	a	45
	B	4		a	25		b	144		b	-3		B	6		b	15
	C	5		z	205		c	4		c	12		C	198		c	12
	D	$\frac{5}{2}$		S	1		d	572		d	140		D	7		d	2

Group Events

SG		2550	G6	a	1	G7	a	-8	G8	A	2	G9	x	6	G10	c	3
		2452		b	52		b	10		b	171		y	6		a	-2
	P	2501		c	13		area	116		c	3		T₁₀	200		b	5
	Q	10001		d	3		tan θ	2		d	27		n	19		d	5

Sample Individual Event

SI.1 Given $A = (b^m)^n + b^{m+n}$. Find the value of A when $b = 4$, $m = n = 1$.

$$A = (4^1)^1 + 4^{1+1} = 4 + 16 = 20$$

SI.2 If $2^A = B^{10}$ and $B > 0$, find the value of B .

$$2^{20} = 4^{10}$$

$$\Rightarrow B = 4$$

SI.3 Solve for C in the following equation: $\sqrt{\frac{20B+45}{C}} = C$.

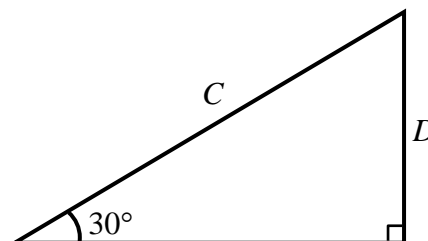
$$\sqrt{\frac{20 \times 4 + 45}{C}} = C$$

$$125 = C^3$$

$$\Rightarrow C = 5$$

SI.4 Find the value of D in the figure.

$$D = C \sin 30^\circ = \frac{5}{2}$$



Individual Event 1

I1.1 If the sum of the interior angles of an n -sided polygon is 1440° , find the value of n .

$$180^\circ \times (n - 2) = 1440^\circ$$

$$\Rightarrow n = 10$$

I1.2 If $x^2 - nx + a = 0$ has 2 equal roots, find the value of a .

$$(-10)^2 - 4a = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 25$$

I1.3 In the figure, if $z = p + q$, find the value of z .

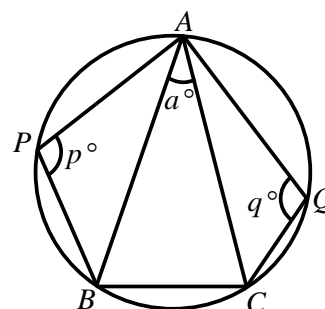
Reference: 1989 HI19

$$\angle ACB = 180^\circ - p^\circ \text{ (opp. } \angle \text{s cyclic quad.)}$$

$$\angle ABC = 180^\circ - q^\circ \text{ (opp. } \angle \text{s cyclic quad.)}$$

$$180 - p + 180 - q + a = 180 \text{ (}\angle \text{s sum of } \Delta \text{)}$$

$$z = p + q = 180 + a = 205$$



I1.4 If $S = 1 + 2 - 3 - 4 + 5 + 6 - 7 - 8 + \dots + z$, find the value of S .

Reference: 1985 FG7.4, 1988 FG6.4, 1990 FG10.1, 1991 FSI.1

$$S = 1 + (2 - 3 - 4 + 5) + (6 - 7 - 8 + 9) + \dots + (202 - 203 - 204 + 205) = 1$$

Individual Event 2

12.1 If $ar = 24$ and $ar^4 = 3$, find the value of a .

$$r^3 = \frac{ar^4}{ar} = \frac{3}{24} = \frac{1}{8}$$

$$\Rightarrow r = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$ar = 24$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}a = 24$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 48$$

12.2 If $\left(x + \frac{a}{4}\right)^2 = x^2 + \frac{a}{2} \cdot x + b$, find the value of b .

$$(x + 12)^2 = x^2 + 24x + 144$$

$$\Rightarrow b = 144$$

12.3 If $c = \log_2 \frac{b}{9}$, find the value of c .

$$c = \log_2 \frac{144}{9}$$

$$= \log_2 16$$

$$= 4$$

12.4 If $d = 12^c - 142^2$, find the value of d .

$$d = 12^4 - 142^2$$

$$= 144^2 - 142^2$$

$$= (144 + 142)(144 - 142)$$

$$= 2(286) = 572$$

Individual Event 3

I3.1 If $a = \frac{\sin 15^\circ}{\cos 75^\circ} + \frac{1}{\sin^2 75^\circ} - \tan^2 15^\circ$, find the value of a .

$$\begin{aligned} a &= \frac{\sin 15^\circ}{\sin 15^\circ} + \sec^2 15^\circ - \tan^2 15^\circ \\ &= 1 + 1 = 2 \end{aligned}$$

I3.2 If the lines $ax + 2y + 1 = 0$ and $3x + by + 5 = 0$ are perpendicular to each other, find the value of b .

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{a}{2} \times \left(-\frac{3}{b}\right) &= -1 \\ \Rightarrow b &= -3 \end{aligned}$$

I3.3 The three points $(2, b)$, $(4, -b)$ and $(5, \frac{c}{2})$ are collinear. Find the value of c .

The three points are $(2, -3)$, $(4, 3)$ and $(5, \frac{c}{2})$, so their slopes are equal.

$$\frac{3 - (-3)}{4 - 2} = \frac{\frac{c}{2} - 3}{5 - 4}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{c}{2} - 3 = 3$$

$$\Rightarrow c = 12$$

I3.4 If $\frac{1}{x} : \frac{1}{y} : \frac{1}{z} = 3 : 4 : 5$ and $\frac{1}{x+y} : \frac{1}{y+z} = 9c : d$, find the value of d .

$$x : y : z = \frac{1}{3} : \frac{1}{4} : \frac{1}{5}$$

$$= \frac{20}{60} : \frac{15}{60} : \frac{12}{60}$$

$$= 20 : 15 : 12$$

$$x = 20k, y = 15k, z = 12k$$

$$\frac{1}{x+y} : \frac{1}{y+z} = \frac{1}{20k+15k} : \frac{1}{15k+12k}$$

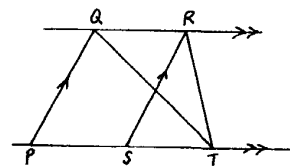
$$= 27 : 35$$

$$= 108 : 140 = 9c : d$$

$$\Rightarrow d = 140$$

Individual Event 4**I4.1** In the figure, the area of $PQRS$ is 80 cm^2 .If the area of $\triangle QRT$ is $A \text{ cm}^2$, find the value of A . $\triangle QRT$ has the same base and same height as the parallelogram $PQRS$.

$$A = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 80 = 40$$

**I4.2** If $B = \log_2 \left(\frac{8A}{5} \right)$, find the value of B .

$$B = \log_2 \left(\frac{8 \cdot 40}{5} \right)$$

$$= \log_2 64$$

$$= \log_2 2^6$$

$$= 6$$

I4.3 Given $x + \frac{1}{x} = B$. If $C = x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3}$, find the value of C .

$$x + \frac{1}{x} = 6$$

$$x^2 + \frac{1}{x^2} = \left(x + \frac{1}{x} \right)^2 - 2$$

$$= 6^2 - 2 = 34$$

$$C = x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3}$$

$$= \left(x + \frac{1}{x} \right) \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{x^2} - 1 \right)$$

$$= 6(34 - 1) = 198$$

I4.4 Let $(p, q) = qD + p$. If $(C, 2) = 212$, find the value of D .

$$2D + C = 212$$

$$\Rightarrow 2D = 212 - 198 = 14$$

$$\Rightarrow D = 7$$

Individual Event 5

I5.1 Let p, q be the roots of the quadratic equation $x^2 - 3x - 2 = 0$ and $a = p^3 + q^3$.

Find the value of a .

$$p + q = 3, pq = -2$$

$$a = (p + q)(p^2 - pq + q^2)$$

$$= 3[(p + q)^2 - 3pq]$$

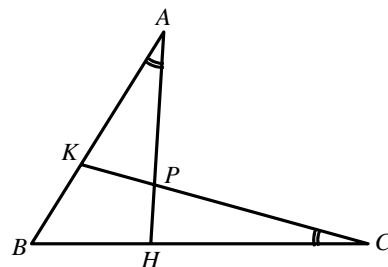
$$= 3[3^2 - 3(-2)] = 45$$

I5.2 If $AH = a$, $CK = 36$, $BK = 12$ and $BH = b$, find the value of b .

$\triangle ABH \sim \triangle CBK$ (equiangular)

$$\frac{b}{12} = \frac{45}{36} \quad (\text{ratio of sides, } \sim \Delta s)$$

$$b = 15$$



I5.3 Find the value of c .

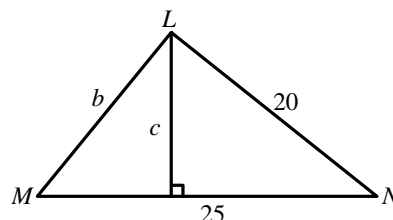
Reference: 1985 FG6.4

$$15^2 + 20^2 = 25^2$$

$\Rightarrow ML \perp LN$ (converse, Pythagoras' theorem)

$$\text{Area of } \triangle MNL = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 15 \cdot 20 = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 25c$$

$$c = 12$$



I5.4 Let $\sqrt{2x+23} + \sqrt{2x-1} = c$ and $d = \sqrt{2x+23} - \sqrt{2x-1}$. Find the value of d .

Reference: 2014 HG1

$$cd = (\sqrt{2x+23} + \sqrt{2x-1})(\sqrt{2x+23} - \sqrt{2x-1})$$

$$12d = (2x+23) - (2x-1) = 24$$

$$\Rightarrow d = 2$$

Sample Group Event Reference HKCEE Mathematics 1990 Paper 1 Q14

Consider the following groups of numbers:

$$(2)$$

$$(4, 6)$$

$$(8, 10, 12)$$

$$(14, 16, 18, 20)$$

$$(22, 24, 26, 28, 30)$$

.....

SG.1 Find the last number of the 50th group.

$$2 = 2 \times 1$$

$$6 = 2(1 + 2)$$

$$12 = 2(1 + 2 + 3)$$

$$20 = 2(1 + 2 + 3 + 4)$$

$$30 = 2(1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{The last number of the 50}^{\text{th}} \text{ group} \\ = 2(1 + 2 + \dots + 50) \end{aligned}$$

$$= 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot 50 \cdot (1 + 50) = 2550$$

SG.2 Find the first number of the 50th group.

There are 50 numbers in the 50th group.

$$\text{The first number of the 50}^{\text{th}} \text{ group} = 2550 - 2(50 - 1) = 2452$$

SG.3 Find the value of P if the sum of the numbers in the 50th group is $50P$.

$$2452 + 2454 + \dots + 2550 = 50P$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot 50 \cdot (2452 + 2550) = 50P$$

$$P = 2501$$

SG.4 Find the value of Q if the sum of the numbers in the 100th group is $100Q$.

$$\text{The last number in the 100}^{\text{th}} \text{ group} = 2(1 + 2 + \dots + 100) = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot 100 \cdot (1 + 100) = 10100$$

$$\text{The first number of the 100}^{\text{th}} \text{ group} = 10100 - 2(100 - 1) = 9902$$

$$9902 + 9904 + \dots + 10100 = 100P$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot 100 \cdot (9902 + 10100) = 100P$$

$$P = 10001$$

Group Event 6

As shown in the figure, $\triangle ABC$ and $\triangle XYZ$ are equilateral triangles and are ends of a right prism. P is the mid-point of BY and $BP = 3$ cm, $XY = 4$ cm.

G6.1 If $a = \frac{CP}{PX}$, find the value of a .

$$CP = \sqrt{3^2 + 4^2} \text{ cm} = 5 \text{ cm} = PX \text{ (Pythagoras' theorem)}$$

$$a = 1$$

G6.2 If $CX = \sqrt{b}$ cm, find the value of b .

$$CX = \sqrt{6^2 + 4^2} \text{ cm} = \sqrt{52} \text{ cm (Pythagoras' theorem)}$$

$$b = 52$$

G6.3 If $\cos \angle PCX = \frac{\sqrt{c}}{5}$, find the value of c .

$$\cos \angle PCX = \frac{\sqrt{52} \div 2}{5} = \frac{\sqrt{13}}{5}$$

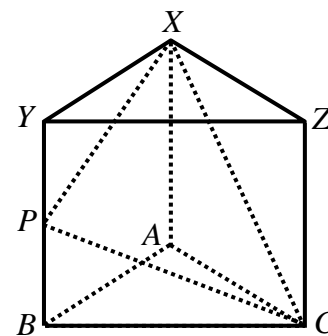
$$\Rightarrow c = 13$$

G6.4 If $\sin \angle PCX = \frac{2\sqrt{d}}{5}$, find the value of d .

$$\sin^2 \angle PCX = 1 - \cos^2 \angle PCX = \frac{12}{25}$$

$$\sin \angle PCX = \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{5}$$

$$\Rightarrow d = 3$$



Group Event 7

In the figure, $OABC$ is a parallelogram.

G7.1 Find the value of a .

$$a - 0 = 4 - 12$$

$$\Rightarrow a = -8$$

G7.2 Find the value of b .

$$b - 1 = 9 - 0$$

$$\Rightarrow b = 10$$

G7.3 Find the area of $OABC$.

$$\text{Area} = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 12 & 1 \\ 4 & 10 \\ 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 116$$

G7.4 Find the value of $\tan \theta$.

$$OC = \sqrt{145}$$

$$OB = \sqrt{116}$$

$$BC = \sqrt{(12-4)^2 + (1-10)^2} = \sqrt{145}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\sqrt{145}^2 + \sqrt{116}^2 - \sqrt{145}^2}{2(\sqrt{145})(\sqrt{116})} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$$

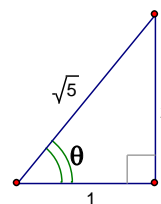
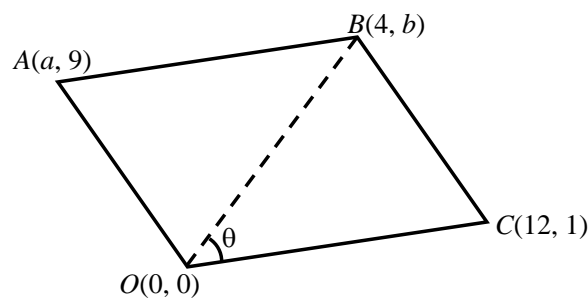
$$\tan \theta = 2$$

Method 2

$$m_{OC} = \frac{1-0}{12-0} = \frac{1}{12}$$

$$m_{OB} = \frac{10-0}{4-0} = \frac{5}{2}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{\frac{5}{2} - \frac{1}{12}}{1 + \frac{5}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{12}} = 2$$



Group Event 8

G8.1 The area of an equilateral triangle of side A cm is $\sqrt{3} \text{ cm}^2$. Find the value of A .

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot A^2 \sin 60^\circ = \sqrt{3}$$
$$\Rightarrow A = 2$$

G8.2 If $19 \times 243^{\frac{A}{5}} = b$, find the value of b .

$$b = 19 \times (3^5)^{\frac{2}{5}} = 171$$

G8.3 The roots of the equation $x^3 - 173x^2 + 339x + 513 = 0$ are -1 , b and c . Find the value of c .

$$-1 + 171 + c = \text{sum of roots} = 173$$
$$\Rightarrow c = 3$$

G8.4 The base of a triangular pyramid is an equilateral triangle of side $2c$ cm.

If the height of the pyramid is $\sqrt{27}$ cm, and its volume is $d \text{ cm}^3$, find the value of d .

$$d = \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot (6^2 \cdot \sin 60^\circ) \cdot \sqrt{27} = 27$$

Group Event 9

If the area of a regular hexagon $ABCDEF$ is $54\sqrt{3} \text{ cm}^2$ and $AB = x \text{ cm}$, $AC = y\sqrt{3} \text{ cm}$,

G9.1 find the value of x .

The hexagon can be cut into 6 identical equilateral triangles

$$6 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot (x^2 \cdot \sin 60^\circ) = 54\sqrt{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 6$$

G9.2 find the value of y .

$$\angle ABC = 120^\circ$$

$$AC^2 = (x^2 + x^2 - 2x^2 \cos 120^\circ) \text{ cm}^2$$

$$= [6^2 + 6^2 - 2(6)^2 \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)] \text{ cm}^2$$

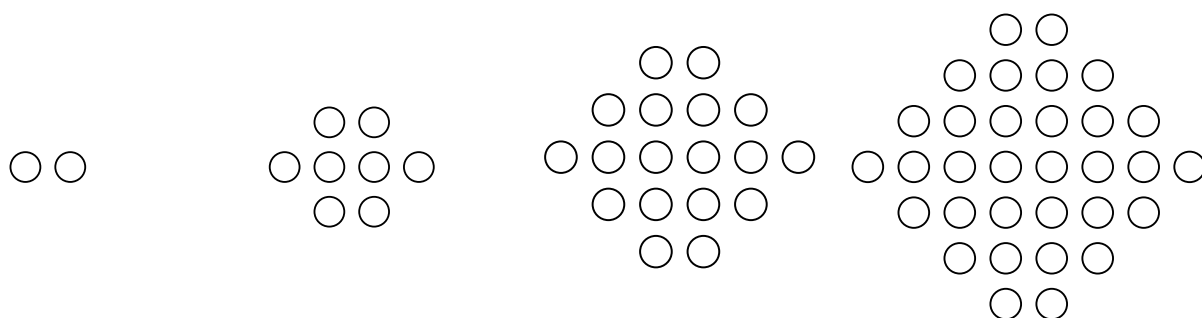
$$= 3 \times 6^2 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$y\sqrt{3} = 6\sqrt{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = 6$$

G9.3 - G9.4 (Reference: 1991 FG8.1-2)

Consider the following number pattern:



$$T_1 = 2$$

$$T_2 = 8$$

$$T_3 = 18$$

$$T_4 = 32$$

G9.3 Find the value of T_{10} .

$$8 - 2 = 6, 18 - 8 = 10, 32 - 18 = 14$$

$$\Rightarrow T_1 = 2, T_2 = 2 + 6, T_3 = 2 + 6 + 10, T_4 = 2 + 6 + 10 + 14$$

$$T_{10} = \frac{10}{2} \cdot [2(2) + (10-1) \cdot 4] = 200$$

G9.4 If $T_n = 722$, find the value of n .

$$\frac{n}{2} \cdot [2(2) + (n-1) \cdot 4] = 722$$

$$n^2 = 361$$

$$n = 19$$

Group Event 10

The following shows the graph of $y = ax^2 + bx + c$.

G10.1 Find the value of c .

$$x = 0, y = c = 3$$

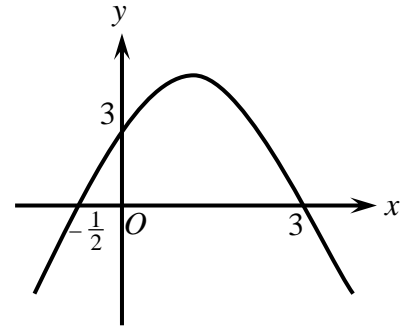
G10.2 Find the value of a .

$$y = a\left(x + \frac{1}{2}\right)(x - 3)$$

$$\text{Sub. } x = 0, y = 3$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{3}{2}a = 3$$

$$a = -2$$



G10.3 Find the value of b .

$$3 - \frac{1}{2} = \text{sum of roots} = -\frac{b}{(-2)}$$

$$b = 5$$

G10.4 If $y = x + d$ is tangent to $y = ax^2 + bx + c$, find the value of d .

$$\text{Sub. } y = x + d \text{ into } y = ax^2 + bx + c$$

$$-2x^2 + 5x + 3 = x + d$$

$$2x^2 - 4x + d - 3 = 0$$

$$\Delta = (-4)^2 - 4(2)(d - 3) = 0$$

$$4 - 2d + 6 = 0$$

$$d = 5$$