



2020 VCAA Mathematical Methods Exam 2 Solutions

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Use CAS whenever practical

SECTION A – Multiple-choice questions

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
D	E	C	D	E	B	C	B	E	B

11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
C	E	A	A	B	D	C	D	A	B

Q1 $g(f(-1)) = g(4) = 6$ D

Q2 $p(-2) = (-2)^3 - 2a(-2)^2 + (-2) - 1 = 5, a = -2$ E

Q3 C

Q4 $2x - \frac{\pi}{3} = 2k\pi - \frac{2\pi}{3}, 2k\pi + \frac{2\pi}{3}, x = \frac{\pi(6k-1)}{6}, \frac{\pi(6k+3)}{6}$ D

Q5 E

Q6 $f'(x) = 0$ at two values of $x < 0$ B

Q7 C

Q8 $n = 25, p = \frac{1.4}{25} = 0.056, \Pr(X > 3) \approx 0.048$ B

Q9 $\int_4^8 f(x) dx = 2 \int_2^4 f(2x) dx = 2 \int_0^2 f(2(x+2)) dx = 5$ E

Q10 $n+1 = 2^x, n = 2^x - 1 = 2^k - 1$ for $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ B

Q11 $\Pr(X < 259) = \Pr\left(Z < \frac{259 - 250}{\sigma}\right) = \Pr(Z < 1.5), \sigma = 6$ C

Q12 Amplitude = 10, $h(0) = 25$, period = 60 = $\frac{2\pi}{n} \therefore n = \frac{\pi}{30}$ E

Q13 Left translation by 4, then horizontal dilation by factor $\frac{1}{2}$ A

Q14 $\Pr(X > 5.2) = \Pr\left(Z > \frac{5.2 - 2\sigma}{\sigma}\right) = \Pr\left(\frac{5.2}{\sigma} - 2\right) = 0.9,$
 $\sigma \approx 7.238$ A

Q15 Average value = $\frac{\frac{1}{2}(3a)(2a) + \frac{1}{2}(2a)(a) - a(3a)}{3a} = \frac{a}{3}$ B

Q16 $A = \frac{1}{2}m(9 - m^2), \text{ let } \frac{dA}{dm} = 0, C(\sqrt{3}, 6), \text{ max area} = 3\sqrt{3}$ D

Q17 $f(0) = -\log_e 2$, a tangent at $x = 0$ has $c = -\log_e 2$.
 Tangents at $x \neq 0$ have $c < -\log_e 2$ C

Q18 D

Q19 $p(w) = {}^{20}C_w \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^w \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^{20-w}$
 $q(w) = {}^{20}C_w \left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^w \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{20-w} = p(20-w)$ A

Q20 $\cos ax = \cos a(x+h), T = 1 \therefore a = 2\pi,$
 $-1 \leq \log_2(\cos 2\pi x) \leq 0 \therefore \frac{1}{2} \leq \cos 2\pi x \leq 1, \frac{5}{6} \leq x \leq \frac{7}{6}$ B

SECTION B

Q1a $f(0) = 16a = 4, a = \frac{1}{4}$

Q1b $f(x) = \frac{1}{4}(x^2 - 4)^2 = \frac{1}{4}(x^4 - 8x^2 + 16) = \frac{1}{4}x^4 - 2x^2 + 4$

Q1ci $f'(x) = x^3 - 4x$

Q1cii $f''(x) = 0$ and $x \in (0, 2), 3x^2 - 4 = 0, x = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$

\therefore minimum $f' = f'\left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}\right) = -\frac{16}{3\sqrt{3}}$

Q1d Reflection in the x -axis
 Translation of 2 units upwards

Q1ei The two graphs intersect at $y = 1$.

$\therefore \frac{1}{4}(x+2)^2(x-2)^2 = 1, x = \pm\sqrt{2}, \pm\sqrt{6}$

Q1eii $\int_{\sqrt{2}}^{\sqrt{6}} 4\left(1 - \frac{1}{4}(x+2)^2(x-2)^2\right) dx$

Q1eiii Total area ≈ 2.72

Q1f $D \leq 2$ inside the shaded regions.

Outside the shaded regions, let $\frac{1}{4}(x+2)^2(x-2)^2 - 1 = 1$

$\therefore (x+2)^2(x-2)^2 = 8, x \approx -2.61, -1.08, 1.08, 2.61$

$\therefore -2.61 \leq x \leq -1.08$ or $1.08 \leq x \leq 2.61$, shaded regions included.

Q2a f_1 is the vertical translation of f_2 by 10 m.
 Swim distance = 10 m

Q2b $f_1(x) = 20 \cos \frac{\pi x}{100} + 40 = 30, \cos \frac{\pi x}{100} = -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{\pi x}{100} = \frac{2\pi}{3}$

$\therefore x = \frac{200}{3}$. Swim distance = $\frac{200}{3} - 50 = \frac{50}{3}$ m

Q2c Distance $D = \sqrt{(x-50)^2 + \left(20 \cos \frac{\pi x}{100} + 40 - 30\right)^2}$

$D_{\min} \approx 8.5$ m

Q2d Area = $10 \times 200 = 2000$ m²

Q2e The horizontal line cuts f_1 at $x = \frac{200}{3}$ and $x = \frac{400}{3}$

Area = $\int_{50}^{150} 30 - f_2(x) dx - \int_{\frac{200}{3}}^{\frac{400}{3}} 30 - f_1(x) dx \approx 837$ m²

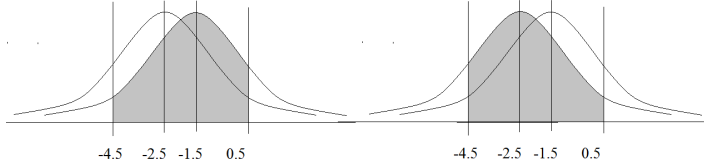
Q2f Given $k \geq 1$ and $kf_1(0) - f_2(0) < 20, k(20+40) - (20+30) < 20$

$\therefore 1 \leq k < \frac{7}{6}$

Q3a $a \approx 1$

Q3b $\Pr(T \leq 3 | T > 0) = \frac{\Pr(0 < T \leq 3)}{\Pr(T > 0)} \approx 0.547$

Q3c $k = -2.5, -1.5$



Q3d $n = 8, p = 0.85 \Pr(N \leq 3) \approx 0.003$

Q3ei $p = 0.15, \Pr(N \geq 1) = 1 - \Pr(N = 0) = 1 - 0.85^n$

Q3eii $1 - 0.85^n \geq 0.95, n = 19$

Q3f $xy + 0.85(1 - y) = 0.75$, use $x = 0.3, 0.7$ to find the minimum and maximum values of y respectively.

$$y_{\min} = \frac{2}{11}, y_{\max} = \frac{2}{3}$$

Q4a $f(x) = 2xe^{1-x^2}, 0 \leq x \leq 3$

$$f'(x) = 2e^{1-x^2} + 2x(-2x)e^{1-x^2}, f'(1) = -2$$

Q4b $\tan \theta = -2, \theta \approx 117^\circ$

Q4c $f'(p) = 2e^{1-p^2}(1 - 2p^2)$

Q4di $f'(1)f'(p) = (-2)(2e^{1-p^2})(1 - 2p^2) = -1, p \approx 0.655$

Q4dii Tangent at $x = 1, y = f(1) = 2, y = -2(x - 1) + 2$

Tangent at $x = p, y = 2pe^{1-p^2}$,

$$y = 2e^{1-p^2}(1 - 2p^2)(x - p) + 2pe^{1-p^2}$$

Perpendicular when $p \approx 0.655$

Solve simultaneously, $x \approx 0.80, y \approx 2.39$

Q4ei $y = \frac{2ne^{1-n^2}}{n}x, y = 2e^{1-n^2}x$. Let $p(x) = 2e^{1-n^2}x$

Q4eii $y = \frac{f(3) - f(n)}{3 - n}(x - 3) + f(3)$

$$\therefore y = \frac{6e^{-8} - 2ne^{1-n^2}}{3 - n}(x - 3) + 6e^{-8}$$

Let $q(x) = \frac{6e^{-8} - 2ne^{1-n^2}}{3 - n}(x - 3) + 6e^{-8}$

Q4eiii Solve $\int_0^n (f(x) - p(x))dx = \int_n^3 (q(x) - f(x))dx$ for n ,

$n \approx 1.088$

Q5a $f(x) = x^3 - x, f'(x) = 3x^2 - 1$

Tangent to the graph of $f(x)$ at $x = a: y - f(a) = f'(a)(x - a)$

$$x\text{-intercept } (b, 0) \therefore 0 - (a^3 - a) = (3a^2 - 1)(b - a) \therefore b = \frac{2a^3}{3a^2 - 1}$$

Q5b $3a^2 = 1, a = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$

Q5c The graph of g_a is a horizontal line when b does not exist.

Q5di $b = \frac{2a^3}{3a^2 - 1} = 1.1, a = -0.5052, 0.8084, 1.3468$

Q5dii $(-0.505, -0.5] \cup (0.808, 1.347)$

Q5e The two lines are parallel when $f'(a) = f'(b), a^2 = b^2$

Given $b \neq a \therefore b = -a$

$$\text{Let } \frac{2a^3}{3a^2 - 1} = -a \therefore a = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$$

Q5f $p(-x) = (-x)^3 + w(-x) = -p(x)$

Q5g For $w \geq 0, p(x) = x^3 + wx$ has only one x -intercept at $x = 0$ and curves upwards. Tangent at $x > 0$ cuts the x -axis at $x > 0$.

For $w < 0, p(x)$ has x -intercepts at $x = 0, x = \pm\sqrt{-w}$, the same general features as $f(x)$ and satisfies the parallel tangents property as in part e.

Q5h m and n are dilations/reflections of function p . They do not change the parallel tangents property.

h and k are translations. If the tangent at $x = t$ is not required to cut the x -axis at $x = -t$, then $h = 0$ and $k \in R$, otherwise $h = k = 0$.

Please inform admin@itute.com re conceptual and/or mathematical errors