

**FREE  
TRIAL**

**SEQUOIA**  
— EDUCATION —

Write your **full name** in the space above.

# Mathematical Methods Examination 1

## Question and Answer Book

### VCE Trial Examination – Free

---

- Reading time is **15 minutes**
- Writing time is **1 hour**

#### **Materials supplied**

- Question and Answer Book of 12 pages
- Formula Sheet

#### **Instructions**

Students are **not** permitted to bring any technology (calculators or software) or notes of any kind into the examination room.

Students are **not** permitted to bring mobile phones and/or any unauthorised electronic devices into the examination room.

---

#### **Contents**

	pages
8 questions (40 marks) _____	2–11

**Instructions**

- Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.
  - Write your responses in English.
  - In all questions where a numerical answer is required, an **exact** value must be given, unless otherwise specified.
  - In questions where more than one mark is available, appropriate working **must** be shown.
  - Unless otherwise indicated, the diagrams in this book are **not** drawn to scale.
- 

**Question 1** (4 marks)

- a. Consider the function  $f : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(x) = x \log_e(x)$ .

Evaluate  $f'(1)$ .

2 marks

---

---

---

---

---

- b. Find  $\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x}} dx$ .

2 marks

---

---

---

---

---

**Question 2** (3 marks)

Consider the polynomial  $p(x) = x^3 + 2x^2 - 3x - 6$ .

**a.** Show that  $x + 2$  is a factor of  $p(x)$ .

1 mark

---

---

---

**b.** Solve  $p(x) = 0$ .

2 marks

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Question 3** (5 marks)

Consider the function  $f : [-2\pi, 2\pi] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(x) = 1 - 2 \sin\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)$ .

a. Solve  $f(x) = 0$ .

2 marks

---

---

---

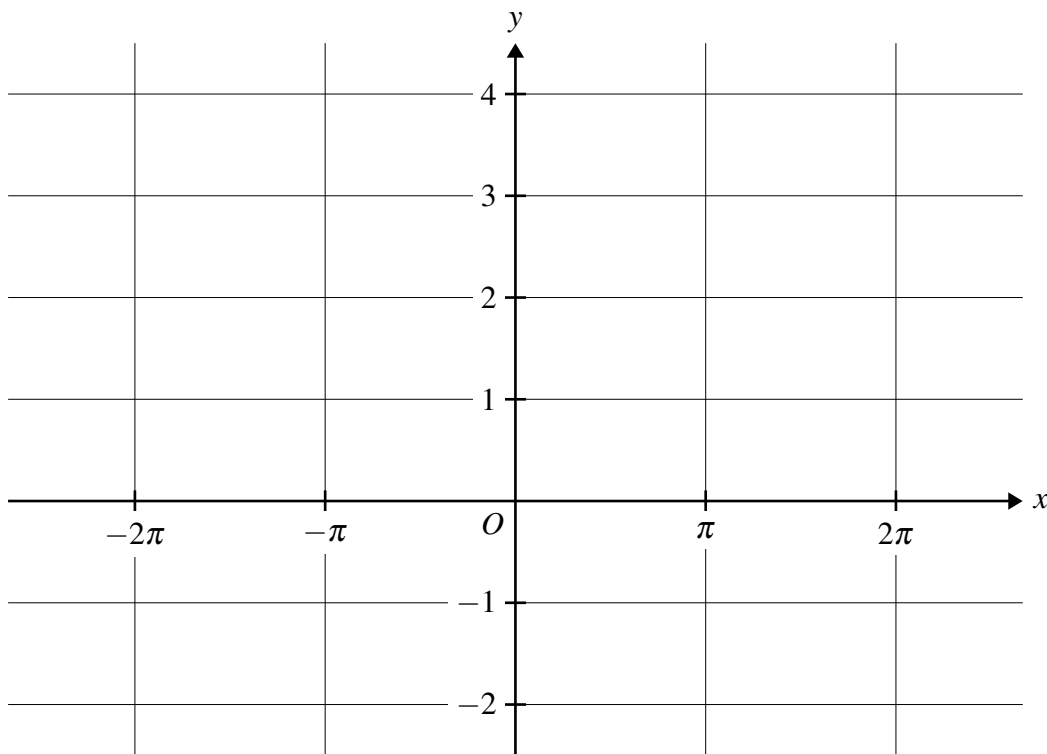
---

---

---

b. Sketch the graph of  $f$  on the axes provided below, labelling endpoints, stationary points and axial intercepts with their coordinates.

3 marks

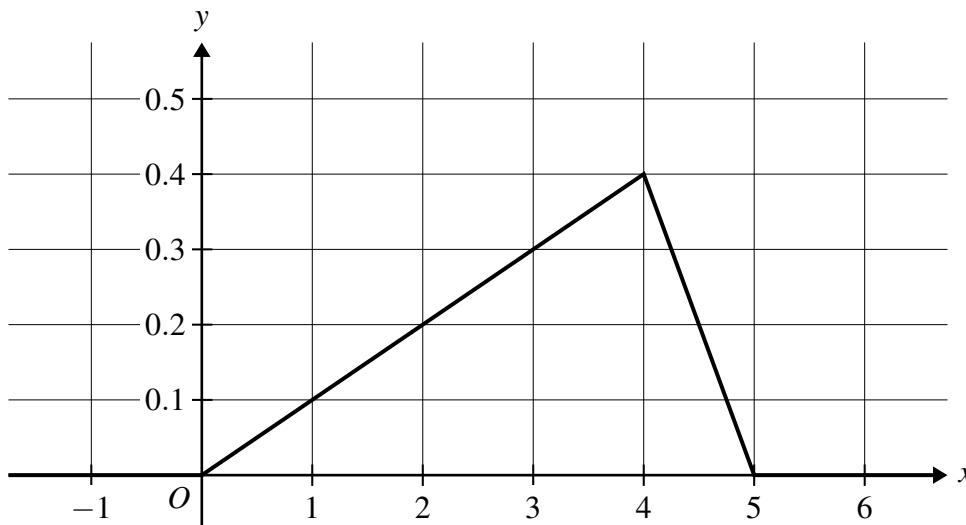


**Question 4** (4 marks)

Let  $X$  be a continuous random variable with probability density function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{10}, & 0 \leq x \leq 4 \\ 2 - \frac{2x}{5}, & 4 < x \leq 5 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The graph of  $f$  is shown below.



- a.** Find  $\Pr(1 \leq X \leq 3)$ . 1 mark

---



---



---

- b.** Find the expected value of  $X$ . 3 marks

---



---



---



---



---



---



---

Do not write in this area.

**Question 5** (4 marks)

A factory uses two machines to produce batteries: Machine A and Machine B.

Machine A produces 40% of the batteries with a 5% defect rate and Machine B produces the remaining 60% with a 10% defect rate.

- a. Find the probability that a randomly selected battery produced at the factory is defective.

2 marks

---

---

---

---

---

- b. Find the probability that a randomly selected defective battery from the factory was produced by Machine B.

1 mark

---

---

---

Assume that the defectiveness of each battery produced by Machine B is independent.

- c. Three batteries that were produced by Machine B are randomly selected.  
Find the probability that exactly two of these batteries are defective.

1 mark

---

---

---

---

**Question 6** (5 marks)

Consider the function  $f : \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(x) = \frac{\cos(\pi x)}{x}$ .

a. Find  $f'(x)$ .

1 mark

---

---

---

---

b. Find the equations of the tangents to the graph of  $f$  where  $x = -1$  and  $x = 1$ .

2 marks

---

---

---

---

---

---

c. Find the distance between these tangents.

2 marks

---

---

---

---

---

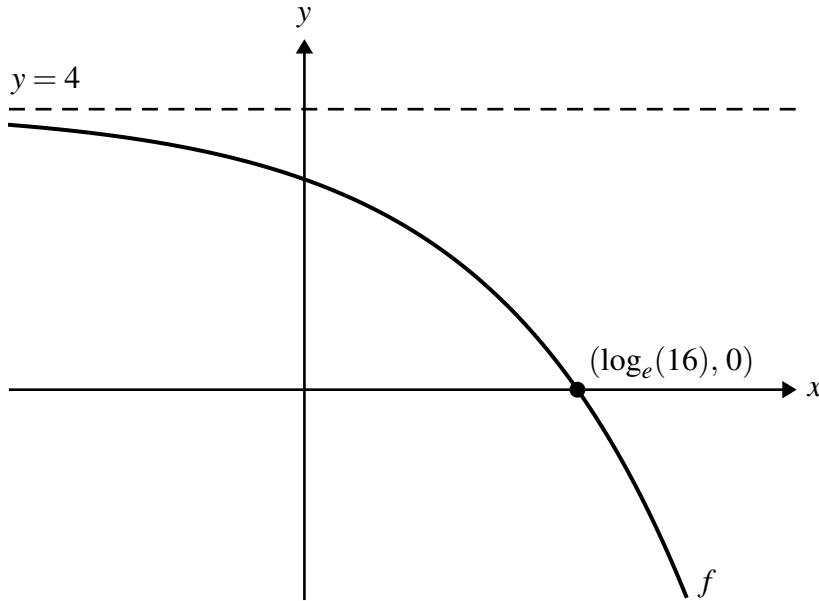
---

---

**Question 7** (7 marks)

Consider the function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(x) = a - e^{bx}$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are positive real constants.

The graph of  $f$  has a horizontal asymptote where  $y = 4$  and passes through the point  $(\log_e(16), 0)$ , as shown in the diagram below.



- a. Show that  $a = 4$  and  $b = \frac{1}{2}$ .

1 mark

---



---



---



---



---

Consider the function  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $g(x) = e^x - 2$ .

- b. State a sequence of transformations which maps the graph of  $f$  onto the graph of  $g$ .

2 marks

---



---



---



---



---



**Question 8** (8 marks)

Consider the function  $f: \mathbb{R} \setminus \{-1\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(x) = \frac{x}{x+1}$ .

a. Find the rule of  $f^{-1}$ , the inverse function of  $f$ .

2 marks

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Consider the function  $g(x) = \log_e\left(\frac{x}{x+1}\right)$ .

b. Find the implied domain of  $g$ .

1 mark

---

---

---

---

---

---

c. Find the implied range of  $g$ .

2 marks

---

---

---

---

---

---

**d.** Let  $p : B \rightarrow C$  and  $q : A \rightarrow B$  be invertible functions.

Prove that  $(p \circ q)^{-1} = q^{-1} \circ p^{-1}$ .

2 marks

---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---

**e.** Hence or otherwise, find the rule of  $g^{-1}$ .

1 mark

---



---



---

Do not write in this area.

© Sequoia Education 2025