

A level Mathematics Practice Paper – Algebra and functions – Mark scheme

Question	Scheme	Marks
1	$ \begin{array}{r} 3x^2 - 2x + 7 \\ x^2 (+0x) - 4 \overline{)3x^4 - 2x^3 - 5x^2 + (0x) - 4} \\ \underline{3x^4 + 0x^3 - 12x^2} \\ - 2x^3 + 7x^2 + 0x \\ - 2x^3 + 0x^2 + 8x \\ \underline{7x^2 - 8x - 4} \\ 7x^2 + 0x - 28 \\ - 8x + 24 \end{array} $	
	$a = 3$	B1
	$ \begin{array}{r} 3x^2 - 2x \\ x^2 (+0x) - 4 \overline{)3x^4 - 2x^3 - 5x^2 + (0x) - 4} \\ \underline{3x^4 + 0x^3 - 12x^2} \\ - 2x^3 + \\ - 2x^3 + \end{array} $	M1
	Two of $b = -2$ $c = 7$ $d = -8$ $e = 24$	A1
	All four of $b = -2$ $c = 7$ $d = -8$ $e = 24$	A1
		(4 marks)
2	$x^2 - 9 = (x+3)(x-3)$	B1
	$ \frac{4x}{x^2 - 9} - \frac{2}{(x+3)} = \frac{4x - 2(x-3)}{(x+3)(x-3)} $	M1
	$ = \frac{2x + 6}{(x+3)(x-3)} $	A1
	$ = \frac{2(x+3)}{(x+3)(x-3)} $	
	$ = \frac{2}{(x-3)} $	A1
		(4 marks)

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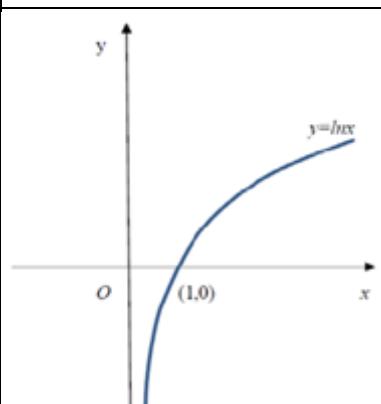
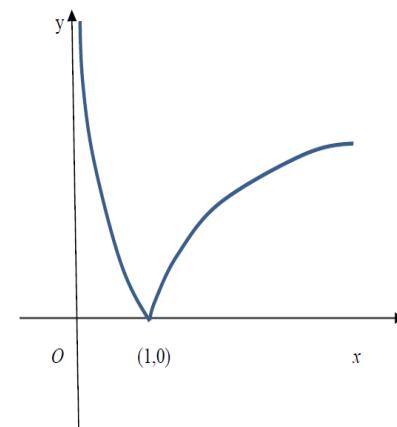
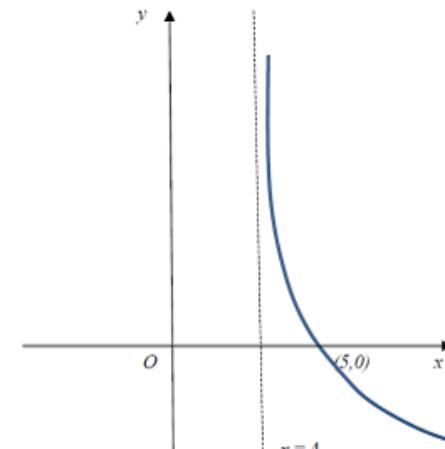
Question	Scheme	Marks
3	Factorise $4x^2 - 9 = (2x-3)(2x+3)$	B1
	Use of common denominator $\frac{3}{2x+3} - \frac{1}{2x-3} + \frac{6}{4x^2-9} = \frac{3(2x-3) - 1(2x+3) + 6}{(2x+3)(2x-3)}$ $= \frac{4x-6}{(2x+3)(2x-3)}$ $= \frac{2(2x-3)}{(2x+3)(2x-3)} = \frac{2}{2x+3}$	M1 A1 A1
		(4 marks)
4	$9x^2 - 4 = (3x-2)(3x+2)$ At any stage	B1
	Eliminating the common factor of $(3x+2)$ at any stage	
	$\frac{2(3x+2)}{(3x-2)(3x+2)} = \frac{2}{3x-2}$	B1
	Use of a common denominator	
	$\frac{2(3x+2)(3x+1)}{(9x^2-4)(3x+1)} - \frac{2(9x^2-4)}{(9x^2-4)(3x+1)} \text{ or } \frac{2(3x+1)}{(3x-2)(3x+1)} - \frac{2(3x-2)}{(3x+1)(3x-2)}$	M1
	$\frac{6}{(3x-2)(3x+1)} \text{ or } \frac{6}{9x^2-3x-2}$	A1
		(4 marks)
5(a)	$fg(x) = \frac{28}{x-2} - 1$ $\left(= \frac{30-x}{x-2} \right)$	M1
	Sets $fg(x) = x \Rightarrow \frac{28}{x-2} - 1 = x$	
	$\Rightarrow 28 = (x+1)(x-2)$	M1
	$\Rightarrow x^2 - x - 30 = 0$	
	$\Rightarrow (x-6)(x+5) = 0$	dM1
	$\Rightarrow x = 6, x = -5$	A1
		(4)
5(b)	$a = 6$	B1ft
		(1)

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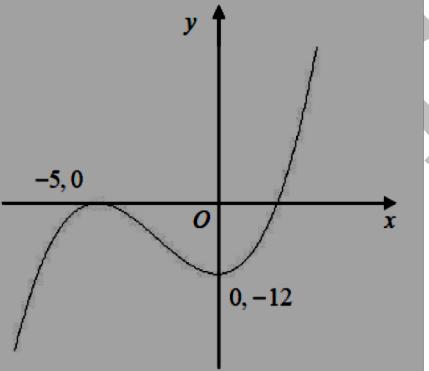
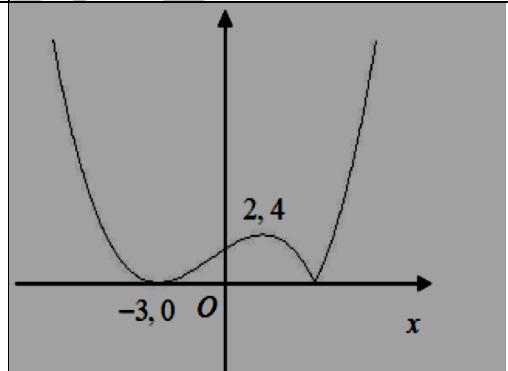
Question	Scheme	Marks
		(5 marks)

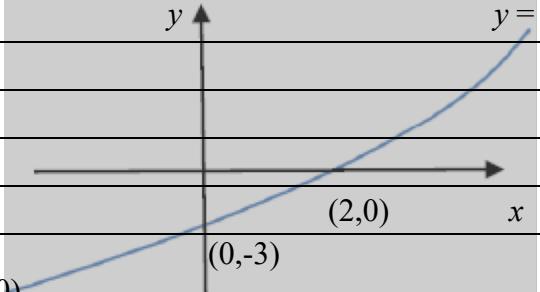
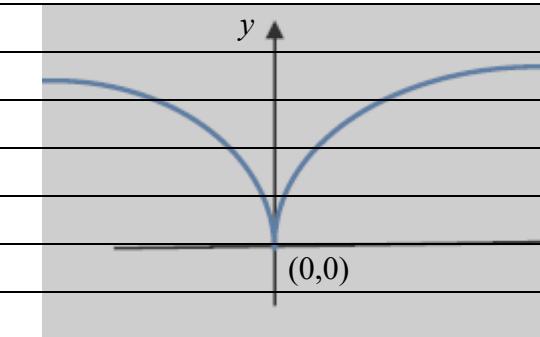
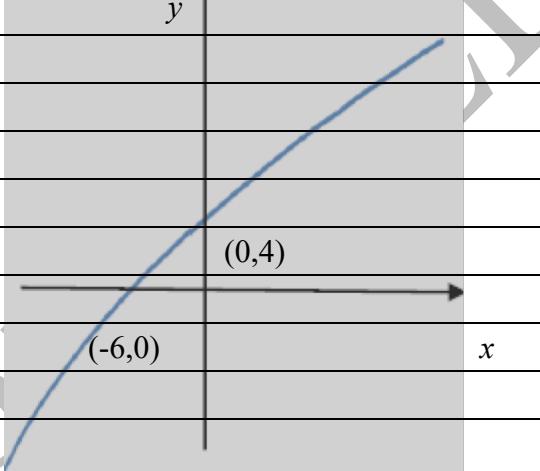
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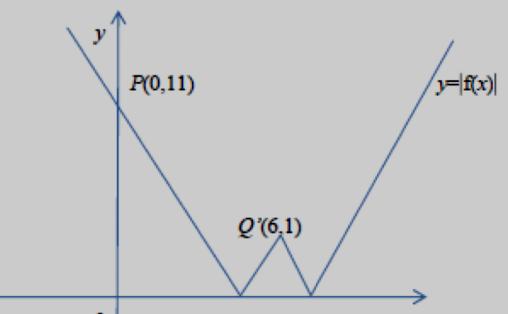
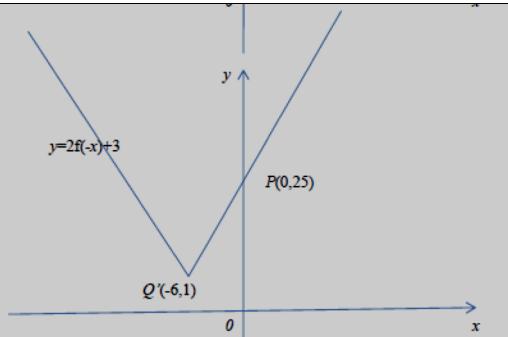
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Question	Scheme	Marks
6	 <p>ln graph crossing x axis at $(1,0)$ and asymptote at $x = 0$</p>	B1
	 <p>Shape including cusp Touches or crosses the x axis at $(1,0)$ Asymptote given as $x=0$</p>	B1ft B1ft B1
	 <p>Shape Crosses at $(5, 0)$ Asymptote given as $x = 4$</p>	B1 B1ft B1
		(7 marks)

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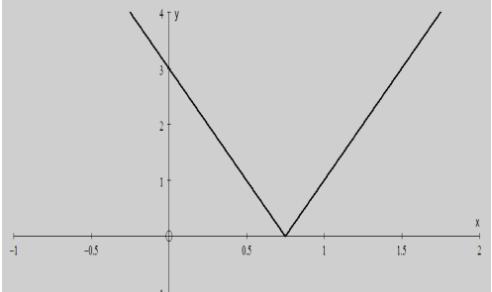
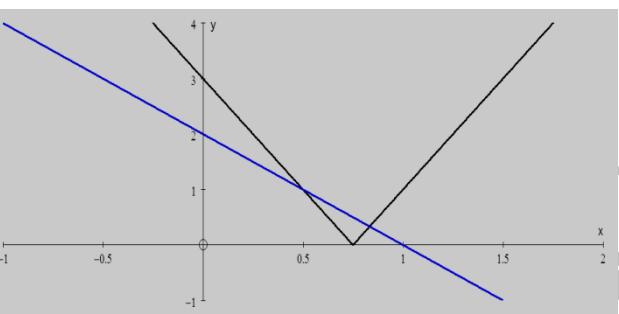
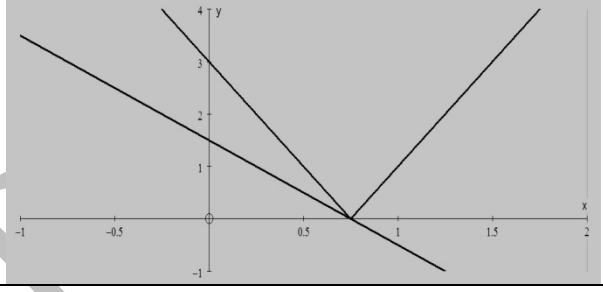
Question	Scheme	Marks	
7(a)	$y \geq 3$	B1	
		(1)	
7(b)	$y = 3 + \sqrt{x+2} \Rightarrow y-3 = \sqrt{x+2} \Rightarrow x = (y-3)^2 - 2$ $\Rightarrow g^{-1}(x) = (x-3)^2 - 2, \text{ with } x \geq 3$	M1 A1 A1	
		(3)	
7(c)	$g(x) = x \Rightarrow 3 + \sqrt{x+2} = x$ $\Rightarrow x+2 = (x-3)^2 \Rightarrow x^2 - 7x + 7 = 0$ $\Rightarrow x = \frac{7 \pm \sqrt{21}}{2} \Rightarrow x = \frac{7 + \sqrt{21}}{2} \text{ only}$	M1 A1 M1 A1	
		(4)	
7(d)	$a = \frac{7 + \sqrt{21}}{2}$	B1 ft	
		(1)	
		(9 marks)	
8(a)		Shape x coordinates correct y coordinates correct	B1 B1 B1
		(3)	
8(b)		Shape Max at (2,4) Min at (-3,0)	B1 B1 B1
		(3)	
		(6 marks)	

Question	Scheme	Marks
9(a)	$ff(-3) = f(0) = 2$	M1 A1
		(2)
9(b)	 <p>$y = f^{-1}(x)$</p> <p>Shape</p>	<p>B1</p>
	(2,0)	(0,-3) and
		B1
		(2)
9(c)	 <p>$y = f(x) - 2$</p> <p>Shape</p>	<p>B1</p>
	(0,0)	(0,0)
		B1
		(2)
9(d)	 <p>Shape</p>	<p>B1</p>
	(0,4)	(-6,0) or (0,4)
	(-6,0)	(-6,0) and (0,4)
		B1
		(3)
		(9 marks)

Question	Scheme	Marks
10(a)	 <p>‘W’ Shape $(0, 11)$ and $(6, 1)$</p>	B1 B1
		(2)
10(b)	 <p>‘V’ shape $(-6, 1)$ $(0, 25)$</p>	B1 B1 B1
		(3)
10(c)	<p>One of $a = 2$ or $b = 6$</p> <p>$a = 2$ and $b = 6$</p>	B1 B1
		(2)
		(7 marks)

Question	Scheme	Marks
11(a)	<p>Shape including cusp $(-1.5, 0)$ and $(0, 5)$</p>	B1 B1
		(2)
11(b)	<p>Shape $(0, 5)$</p>	B1 B1
		(2)
11(c)	<p>Shape $(0, 10)$ $(-0.5, 0)$</p>	B1 B1 B1
		(3)
		(7 marks)

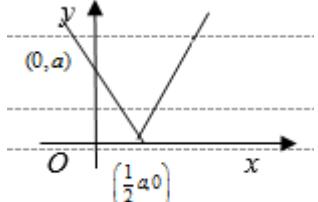
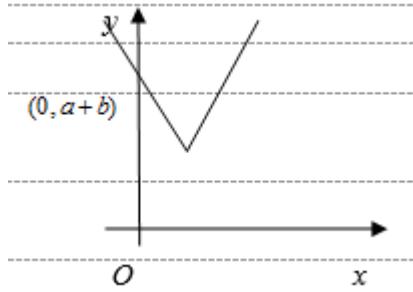
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Question	Scheme	Marks
12(a)	 <p>V shaped graph Touches x axis at $\frac{3}{4}$ and cuts y axis at 3</p>	B1 B1 (2)
12(b)	 <p>Solves $4x - 3 = 2 - 2x$ or $3 - 4x = 2 - 2x$ to give either value of x Both $x = \frac{5}{6}$ and $x = \frac{1}{2}$ or $x > \frac{5}{6}$ or $x < \frac{1}{2}$</p>	M1 A1 (4)
	$x < \frac{1}{2}$ or $x > \frac{5}{6}$	dM1A1
12(c)	 <p>Draws graph Or solves $4x - 3 = 1\frac{1}{2} - 2x$ to give one soln $x = \frac{3}{4}$</p>	M1 (2)
	Accept for all values of x except $x = \frac{3}{4}$ Or $(x \in \mathbb{R},) x \neq \frac{3}{4}$, or $x < \frac{3}{4}, x > \frac{3}{4}$	A1 (8 marks)

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Question	Scheme	Marks
13(a)	$x^2 + x - 6 = (x+3)(x-2)$	B1
	$\frac{x}{x+3} + \frac{3(2x+1)}{(x+3)(x-2)} = \frac{x(x-2) + 3(2x+1)}{(x+3)(x-2)}$	M1
	$= \frac{x^2 + 4x + 3}{(x+3)(x-2)}$	A1
	$= \frac{(x+3)(x+1)}{(x+3)(x-2)}$	
	$= \frac{(x+1)}{(x-2)}$	cso
		A1*
		(4)
13(b)	One end either $(y) > 1, (y) \leq 1$ or $(y) < 4, (y) \geq 4$	B1
	$1 < y < 4$	B1
		(2)
13(c)	Attempt to set	
	Either $g(x) = x$ or $g(x) = g^{-1}(x)$ or $g^{-1}(x) = x$ or $g^2(x) = x$	
	$\frac{(x+1)}{(x-2)} = x \quad \frac{x+1}{x-2} = \frac{2x+1}{x-1} \quad \frac{2x+1}{x-1} = x \quad \frac{\frac{x+1}{x-2} + 1}{\frac{x+1}{x-2} - 2} = x$	M1
	$x^2 - 3x - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow x = \dots$	A1, dM1
	$a = \frac{3 + \sqrt{13}}{2} \text{ oe } (1.5 + \sqrt{3.25})$	cso
		A1
		(4)
		(10 marks)

A level Mathematics Practice Paper – Algebra and functions – Mark scheme

Question	Scheme	Marks
14(a)(i)	 <p>V shape on x - axis or coordinates $(\frac{1}{2}a, 0)$ and $(0, a)$ Correct shape, position and coordinates</p>	B1 B1
14(a)(ii)	 <p>Their "V" shape translated up or $(0, a+b)$ Correct shape, position and $(0, a+b)$</p>	B1ft B1
		(4)
14(b)	<p>States or uses $a + b = 8$</p> <p>Attempts to solve $2x - a + b = \frac{3}{2}x + 8$ in either x or with $x = c$</p> <p>$2c - a + b = \frac{3}{2}c + 8 \Rightarrow kc = f(a, b)$</p> <p>Combines $kc = f(a, b)$ with $a + b = 8 \Rightarrow c = 4a$</p>	B1 M1 dM1 A1
		(4)
		(8 marks)
15	$9x^2 = A(x-1)(2x+1) + B(2x+1) + C(x-1)^2$ <p>$x \rightarrow 1 \quad 9 = 3B \Rightarrow B = 3$</p> <p>$x \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2} \quad \frac{9}{4} = \left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 C \Rightarrow C = 1$</p> <p>$x^2$ terms $9 = 2A + C \Rightarrow A = 4$</p>	B1 M1 A1 A1
		(4 marks)

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Question	Scheme	Marks
16	Method 1: Using one identity $\frac{9x^2 + 20x - 10}{(x+2)(3x-1)} \equiv A + \frac{B}{(x+2)} + \frac{C}{(3x-1)}$ $A = 3$ $\text{their constant term} = 3$ $9x^2 + 20x - 10 \equiv A(x+2)(3x-1) + B(3x-1) + C(x+2)$ $\text{Forming a correct identity.}$ $\text{Either } x^2: 9 = 3A, \quad x: 20 = 5A + 3B + C$ $\text{constant: } -10 = -2A - B + 2C$ $\text{or } x = -2 \Rightarrow 36 - 40 - 10 = -7B \Rightarrow -14 = -7B \Rightarrow B = 2$ $x = \frac{1}{3} \Rightarrow 1 + \frac{20}{3} - 10 = \frac{7}{3}C \Rightarrow -\frac{7}{3} = \frac{7}{3}C \Rightarrow C = -1$ $\text{Attempts to find the value of either one of their } B \text{ or their } C \text{ from their identity.}$	
		M1
	$\text{Correct values for their } B \text{ and their } C, \text{ which are found using a correct identity.}$	A1
		(4)
	Method 2: Long Division $\frac{9x^2 + 20x - 10}{(x+2)(3x-1)} \equiv 3 + \frac{5x - 4}{(x+2)(3x-1)}$ $\text{their constant term} = 3$ $\text{So, } \frac{5x - 4}{(x+2)(3x-1)} \equiv \frac{B}{(x+2)} + \frac{C}{(3x-1)}$ $5x - 4 \equiv B(3x-1) + C(x+2)$ $\text{Forming a correct identity.}$	B1
		B1
	$\text{Either } x: 5 = 3B + C, \text{ constant: } -4 = -B + 2C$ $\text{or } x = -2 \Rightarrow -10 - 4 = -7B \Rightarrow -14 = -7B \Rightarrow B = 2$ $x = \frac{1}{3} \Rightarrow \frac{5}{3} - 4 = \frac{7}{3}C \Rightarrow -\frac{7}{3} = \frac{7}{3}C \Rightarrow C = -1$ $\text{Attempts to find the value of either one of their } B \text{ or their } C \text{ from their identity.}$	
		M1

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Question	Scheme	Marks
	Correct values for their B and their C , which are found using $5x - 4 \equiv B(3x - 1) + C(x + 2)$	A1
	So, $\frac{9x^2 + 20x - 10}{(x + 2)(3x - 1)} \equiv 3 + \frac{2}{(x + 2)} - \frac{1}{(3x - 1)}$	(4)
		(4 marks)

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	Source paper	Question number	New spec references	Question description	New AOs
1	C3 2013	1	2.6	Algebraic fractions	1.1b
2	C3 2017	1	2.6	Algebraic fractions	1.1b
3	C3 June 2014R	1	2.6	Simplification of rational expressions	1.1b
4	C3 2012	1	2.6	Algebra and functions	1.1b
5	C3 2016	1	2.6, 2.8	Composition of function	1.1b, 2.2a
6	C3 2013	2	2.7, 2.9	Modulus function, transformations	1.1b
7	C3 2017	3	2.3, 2.8	Functions, Inverses, Range	1.1b, 2.2a
8	C3 Jan 2012	2	2.9	Algebra and functions	1.1b
9	C3 Jan 2013	3	2.8, 2.9	Algebra and functions	1.1b, 2.2a
10	C3 June 2014	4	2.7, 2.9	Transforming graphs, modulus	1.1b, 2.2a
11	C3 2012	4	2.9	Algebra and functions	1.1b
12	C3 June 2014R	5	2.7,	Modulus function, Linear inequalities	1.1b, 3.1a
13	C3 June 2014	5	2.6, 2.8	Algebraic fractions, function work	1.1b, 3.1a
14	C3 2017	6	2.7, 2.9	Modulus graph, transformation and equation	1.1b, 2.2a, 3.1a
15	C4 2011	1	2.10	Partial fractions	1.1b
16	C4 Jan 2013	3	2.10	Partial fractions	1.1b