

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

| Question | Scheme | Marks |
|----------|--|------------------|
| 1 | $\begin{array}{r} 3x^2 - 2x + 7 \\ x^2(+0x) - 4 \overline{) 3x^4 - 2x^3 - 5x^2 + (0x) - 4} \\ \underline{3x^4 + 0x^3 - 12x^2} \\ - 2x^3 + 7x^2 + 0x \\ \underline{- 2x^3 + 0x^2 + 8x} \\ 7x^2 - 8x - 4 \\ \underline{7x^2 + 0x - 28} \\ - 8x + 24 \end{array}$ | |
| | $a = 3$ | B1 |
| | <p>Long division as far as</p> $\begin{array}{r} 3x^2 - 2x \dots\dots \\ x^2(+0x) - 4 \overline{) 3x^4 - 2x^3 - 5x^2 + (0x) - 4} \\ \underline{3x^4 + 0x^3 - 12x^2} \\ - 2x^3 + \dots\dots\dots \\ - 2x^3 + \dots\dots\dots \end{array}$ | 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 |
| | $= \frac{2\cancel{(x+3)}}{(\cancel{x+3})(x-3)}$ | |
| | $= \frac{2}{(x-3)}$ | A1 |
| | | (4 marks) |

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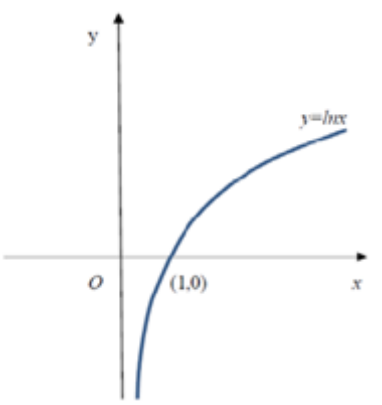
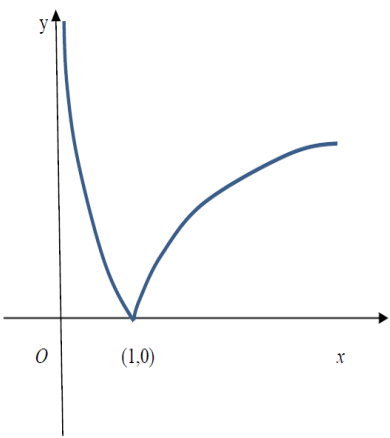
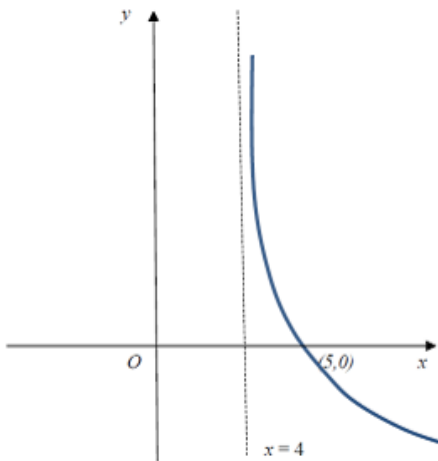
| Question | Scheme | Marks |
|-------------|---|------------------|
| 3 | Factorise $4x^2 - 9 = (2x - 3)(2x + 3)$ | B1 |
| | Use of common denominator $\frac{3}{2x+3} - \frac{1}{2x-3} + \frac{6}{4x^2-9} = \frac{3(2x-3) - 1(2x+3) + 6}{(2x+3)(2x-3)}$ | M1 |
| | $= \frac{4x-6}{(2x+3)(2x-3)}$ | A1 |
| | $= \frac{2\cancel{(2x-3)}}{(2x+3)\cancel{(2x-3)}} = \frac{2}{2x+3}$ | 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 | |
| | | |
| | $\frac{2\cancel{(3x+2)}}{(3x-2)\cancel{(3x+2)}} = \frac{2}{3x-2}$ | 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) | $fg(x) = \frac{28}{x-2} - 1$ | M1 |
| | $\left(= \frac{30-x}{x-2} \right)$ | |
| | 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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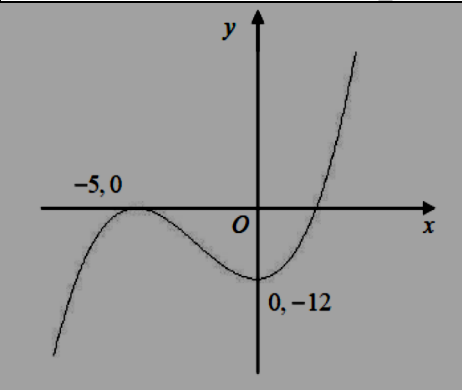
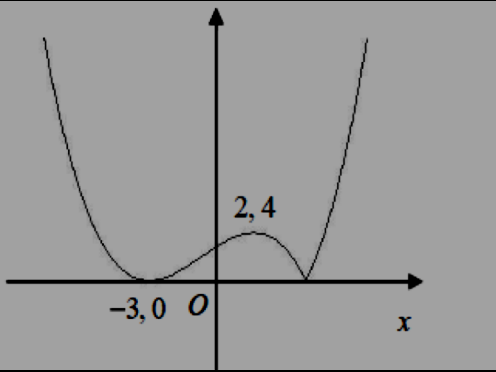
| Question | Scheme | Marks |
|----------|--------|------------------|
| | | (5 marks) |

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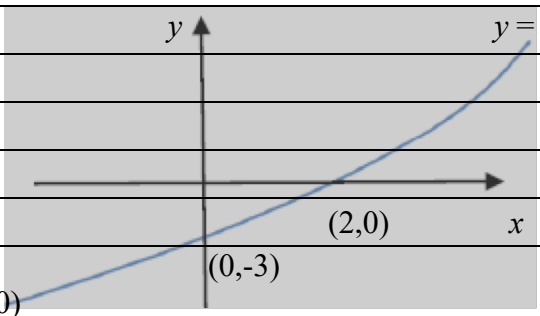
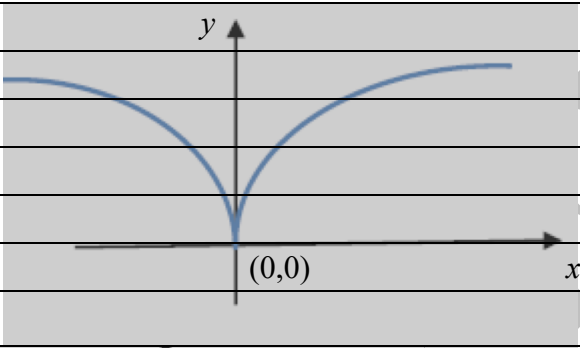
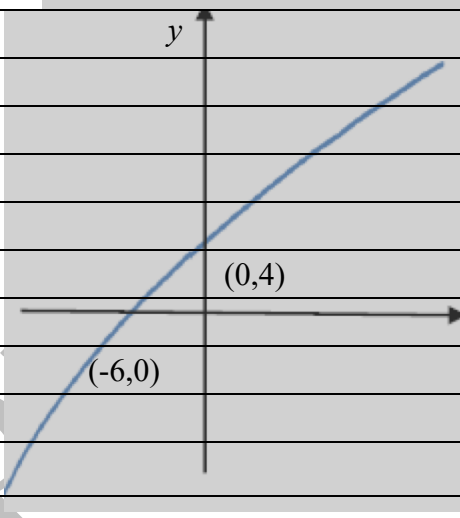
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|----------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 6 |  <p>$y = \ln x$</p> <p>Graph of $y = \ln x$ showing the curve passing through $(1,0)$ and approaching the y-axis ($x=0$) as an asymptote.</p> | <p>B1</p> |
| |  <p>Shape including cusp</p> <p>Touches or crosses the x axis at $(1,0)$</p> <p>Asymptote given as $x=0$</p> | <p>B1ft</p> <p>B1ft</p> <p>B1</p> |
| |  <p>Shape</p> <p>Crosses at $(5,0)$</p> <p>Asymptote given as $x=4$</p> | <p>B1</p> <p>B1ft</p> <p>B1</p> |
| | | (7 marks) |

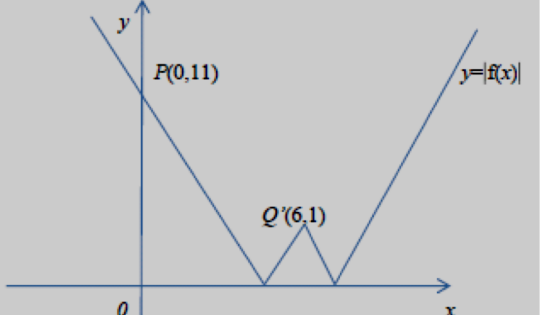
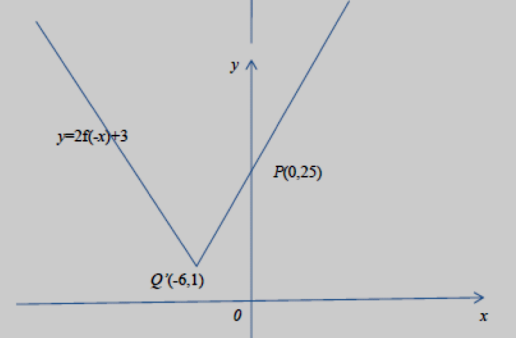
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|----------|--|---|
| 7(a) | $y \geq 3$ | B1 |
| | | (1) |
| 7(b) | $y = 3 + \sqrt{x+2} \Rightarrow y-3 = \sqrt{x+2} \Rightarrow x = (y-3)^2 - 2$ | M1 A1 |
| | $\Rightarrow g^{-1}(x) = (x-3)^2 - 2, \text{ with } x \geq 3$ | A1 |
| | | (3) |
| 7(c)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

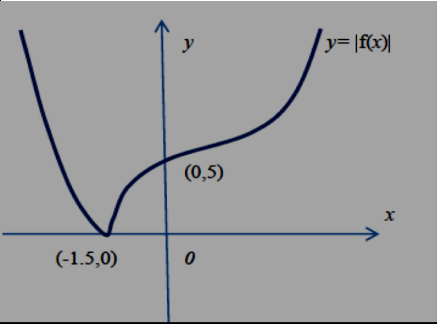
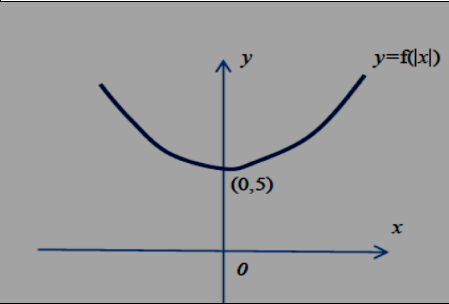
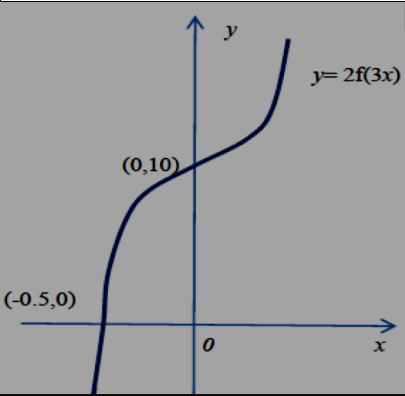
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|----------|---|-----------|
| 9(a) | $ff(-3) = f(0) = 2$ | M1 A1 |
| | | (2) |
| 9(b) |  | |
| | Shape | B1 |
| | (0,-3) and | B1 |
| | (2,0) | |
| | | (2) |
| 9(c) |  | |
| | Shape | B1 |
| | (0,0) | B1 |
| | | (2) |
| 9(d) |  | |
| | Shape | B1 |
| | (-6,0) or (0,4) | B1 |
| | (0,4) | |
| | (-6,0) and (0,4) | B1 |
| | | (3) |
| | | (9 marks) |

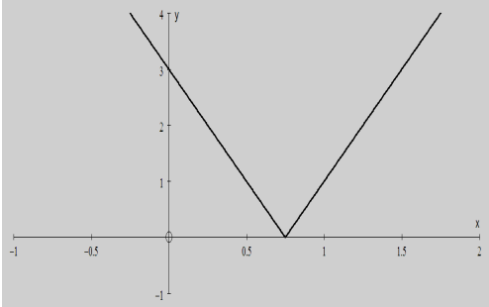
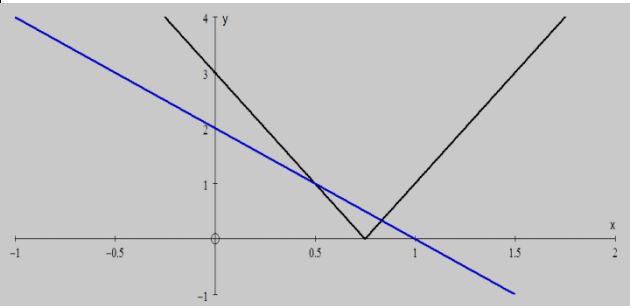
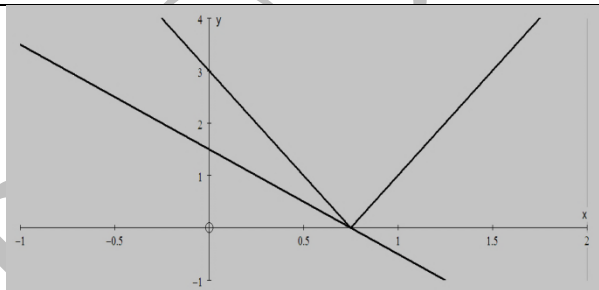
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|----------|---|-------------------------------|
| 10(a) |  <p align="right">‘W’ Shape (0, 11) and (6, 1)</p> | <p>B1</p> <p>B1</p> |
| | | (2) |
| 10(b) |  <p align="right">‘V’ shape (-6,1) (0,25)</p> | <p>B1</p> <p>B1</p> <p>B1</p> |
| | | (3) |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

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

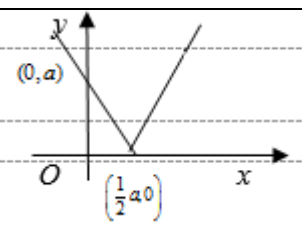
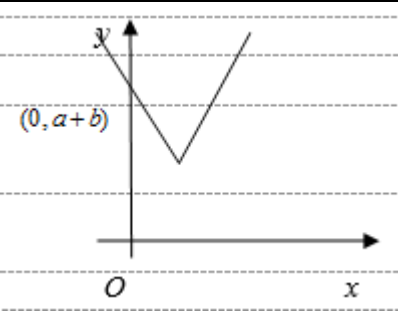
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|----------|--|---------------------|
| 12(a) |  <p>V shaped graph</p> <p>Touches x axis at $\frac{3}{4}$ and cuts y axis at 3</p> | <p>B1</p> <p>B1</p> |
| | | (2) |
| 12(b) |  <p>Solves $4x - 3 = 2 - 2x$ or $3 - 4x = 2 - 2x$ to give either value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

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|--------------|---|-------------------|
| 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 $g^2(x) = x$ | |
| | $\frac{(x+1)}{(x-2)} = x$ $\frac{x+1}{x-2} = \frac{2x+1}{x-1}$ $\frac{2x+1}{x-1} = x$ $\frac{\frac{x+1}{x-2} + 1}{\frac{x+1}{x-2} - 2} = x$ | M1 |
| | | |
| | $x^2 - 3x - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow x = \dots$ | A1, dM1 |
| | $a = \frac{3 + \sqrt{13}}{2}$ oe $(1.5 + \sqrt{3.25})$ cso | A1 |
| | | (4) |
| | | (10 marks) |

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

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

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| | 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 |