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SCEGGS Darlinghurst

Preliminary Year, 2003  
Semester 2 Examination

# Mathematics (Extension)

## General Instructions

- Reading time – 5 minutes
- Working time – 1½ hours
- This paper has 5 questions
- Attempt all questions
- Answer all questions on the pad paper provided
- Write your name on every page
- Total marks for all parts (62)
- Approved calculators may be used

### Questions 1-5

Total marks (62)

- Attempt all parts of Questions 1-5

	Communication	Calculus	Reasoning	Total
Question 1	3 /3		2 /2	12 /12
Question 2		1 /1	5 /5	12 /12
Question 3	1 /3	2 /2		11 /13
Question 4			9 /9	9 /12
Question 5	3 /3		10 /10	13 /13
TOTAL	7 /9	3 /3	26 /26	57 /62

- Answer the questions on the pad paper provided
- Clearly label each part
- Write your name on the top of each page
- START EACH QUESTION ON A NEW PAGE

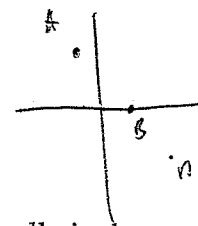
**Question 1 (12 Marks)**

**Marks**

(a) Solve for  $x$ :

**3**

$$\frac{3x+1}{2-x} \geq 1$$



(b) A and B are the points  $(-1, 3)$  and  $(2, 0)$  respectively:

(i) Find the co-ordinates of the point P which divides AB externally in the ratio 5:2.

**2**

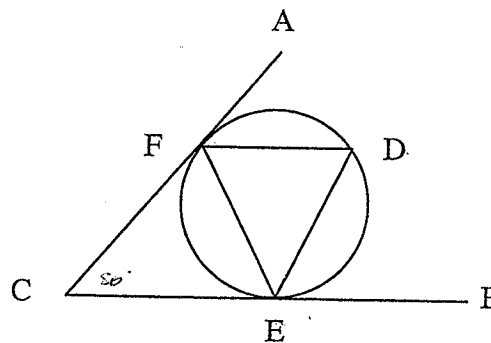
(ii) If the line AB cuts the y axis at Q, find the ratio in which Q divides AB internally without finding the equations of any lines.

**2**

(c) In the diagram, AC and BC are tangents to the circle, touching the circle at F and E respectively.  $\angle ACB$  equals  $50^\circ$ . Copy the diagram onto your paper.

**3**

Show that  $\angle CEF$  is  $65^\circ$  and hence find  $\angle EDF$ .



(d) Prove the identity  $\frac{1 - \tan^2 A}{1 + \tan^2 A} = \cos 2A$ .

**2**

$$\cos^2 A - \sin^2 A$$

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Question 2 (12 Marks)

Marks

(a) The polynomial  $P(x) = x^3 + x^2 + x - 2$  has roots,  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$ .

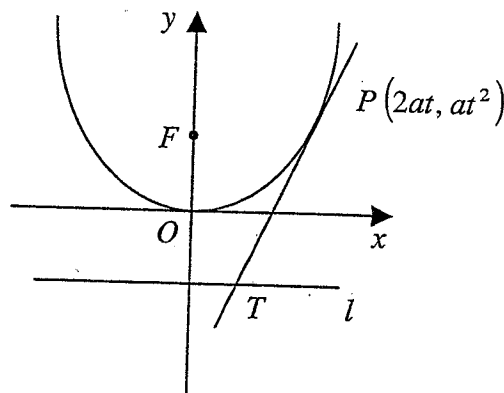
(i) Find the value of  $\alpha\beta\gamma$ .  $-\frac{c}{a}$   $-\frac{-2}{1}$  1

(ii) If  $\alpha = 1$ , find the value of  $\frac{1}{\beta} + \frac{1}{\gamma}$ .  $= \frac{\beta + \gamma}{\beta\gamma}$  2

(b) (i) Find the gradient of the tangent to the curve  $y = x^2 + 3$  at the point  $(1, 4)$ . 1

(ii) Find the acute angle between the line  $y = 3x + 1$  and the curve  $y = x^2 + 3$  at the point of intersection  $(1, 4)$ . Give your answer to the nearest minute. 2

(c) The tangent  $tx - y - at^2 = 0$  at the point  $P(2at, at^2)$  on the parabola  $x^2 = 4ay$  cuts the directrix  $l$  at  $T$ .  $F$  is the focus of the parabola.



(i) Find the co-ordinates of  $T$ . 1

(ii) Show that  $TF$  is perpendicular to  $PF$ . 3

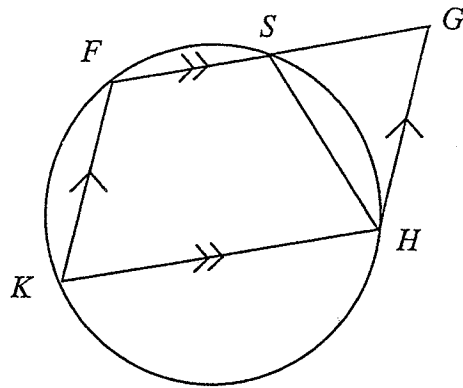
Question 2 continues on the next page

Question 2 (continued)

Marks

(d)

2



The figure  $FGHK$  is a parallelogram. The point  $S$  lies on  $FG$ , and  $F, S, H, K$  lie on a circle.

Copy or trace the diagram onto your answer paper.

Prove that triangle  $HGS$  is isosceles.

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Question 3 (13 Marks)

Marks

(a) Consider the polynomial  $P(x) = 6x^3 - 5x^2 - 2x + 1$ .

(i) Show that 1 is a zero of  $P(x)$ .

1

(ii) Express  $P(x)$  as a product of 3 linear factors.

2

(iii) Solve the inequality  $P(x) \leq 0$ .

1

(b) Using the substitution  $\frac{\sqrt{x+h} - \sqrt{x}}{h} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x}}$  find from first principles the derivative of  $y = \sqrt{x}$ .

2

$$y = x^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2} x^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

(c) (i) Express  $4\sin\theta - 3\cos\theta$  in the form  $A\sin(\theta - \alpha)$  where  $A > 0$  and  $0^\circ < \alpha < 90^\circ$ . Give  $\alpha$  to the nearest degree.

2

(ii) Find all solutions of  $4\sin\theta - 3\cos\theta = 1$  for  $0^\circ \leq \theta \leq 360^\circ$ . Give  $\theta$  to the nearest degree.

2

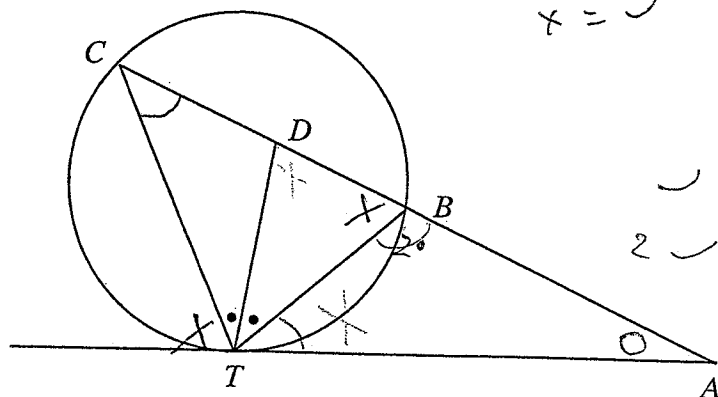
$$2\theta + \alpha = \theta + 2^\circ$$

$$\theta = \alpha$$

205.46

48.40

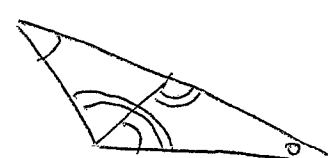
(d)



$$\alpha + \alpha + 2^\circ = 180^\circ$$

$$2\alpha = 178^\circ$$

$$\alpha = 89^\circ$$



TA is a tangent to a circle. Line ABDC intersects the circle at B and C. Line TD bisects angle BTC.

3

Prove  $AT = AD$ .

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Question 4 (12 Marks)

Marks

(a) (i) Using the  $\sin(A - B)$  formula, with  $A = 60^\circ$  and  $B = 45^\circ$  (or otherwise), find the value of  $\sin 15^\circ$  in surd form. 2

(ii) Prove the identity: 2

$$\tan \alpha = \operatorname{cosec} 2\alpha - \cot 2\alpha$$

(iii) Using the results in part (ii), find a value (in surd form) for  $\tan 15^\circ$ . 2

(iv) Using the results in parts (i), (ii) and (iii), (or otherwise) show that: 3

$$\tan 7\frac{1}{2}^\circ = \sqrt{6} + \sqrt{2} - \sqrt{3} - 2$$

7.26

(b) The remainder when  $x^3 + ax + b$  is divided by  $(x - 2)(x + 3)$  is  $2x + 1$ . Find the values of  $a$  and  $b$ . 3

$$\sqrt{18} = 3\sqrt{2}$$

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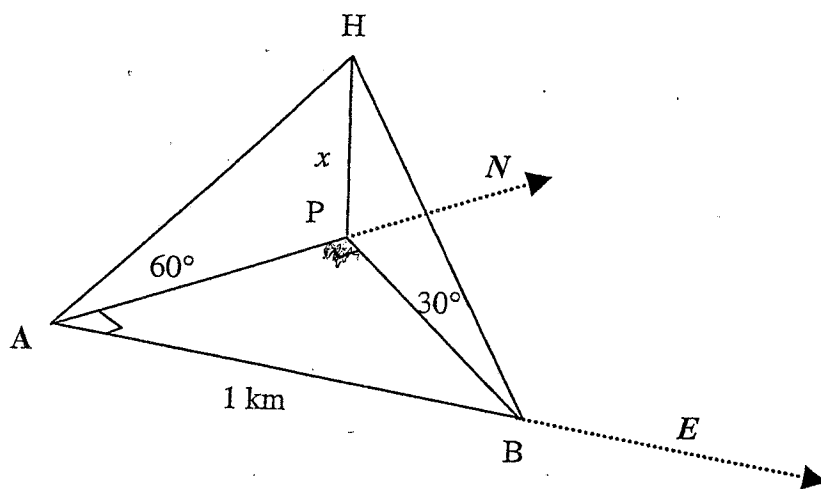
**Question 5 (13 Marks)**

**Marks**

- (a) On the same set of axes, draw the graphs of  $y = |x - 2|$  and  $y = x + 1$ .  
For what values of  $x$  is  $|x - 2| < x + 1$ ?

**3**

- (b) Anna (A) is standing due south of Phillip (P) who is assisting an injured bushwalker. A rescue helicopter (H) is hovering directly over P and lowering a stretcher. Anna measures the angle of elevation of the helicopter to be  $60^\circ$  from her position. Belinda (B) is 1 kilometre due east of A and measures the angle of elevation of the helicopter to be  $30^\circ$ . The height of the helicopter above P is  $x$  metres.



- (i) Write expressions for both AP and BP in terms of  $x$ .

**1**

- (ii) Hence or otherwise, find the height of the helicopter ( $x$ ), correct to the nearest m.

**3**

- (c)  $P(2ap, ap^2)$  is a variable point on a parabola  $x^2 = 4ay$ . The line  $PR$  is perpendicular to the directrix of the parabola with  $R$  on the directrix. The tangent to the parabola at  $P$  meets the  $y$ -axis at  $T$ . If  $M$  is the midpoint of the interval  $RT$ :

- (i) find the locus of  $M$ .

**4**

- (ii) show that the directrix of the locus of  $M$  is the  $x$ -axis.

**2**

**End of Paper**

a)  $\frac{3x+1}{2-x} \geq 1$   
 undefined when  $x=2$   
 multiply both sides by  $(2-x)^2$   
 $\frac{3x+1}{2-x} \times (2-x)^2 \geq 1 \times (2-x)^2$   
 $(3x+1)(2-x) \geq (2-x)^2$   
 $6x - 3x^2 + 2 - x \geq 4 - 4x + x^2$   
 $0 \geq 4x^2 - 9x + 2$   
 $4x^2 - 9x + 2 \leq 0$   
 $(4x-1)(x-2) \leq 0$

$\frac{1}{4} \leq x \leq 2$

b) External division 5:-2  
 $A(-1,3)$   $B(2,0)$   
 $5 : -2$

$x = \frac{-2x-1+5x2}{5-2}$   $y = \frac{-2x3+5x0}{5-2}$   
 $= \frac{2+10}{3}$   $= \frac{-6+0}{3}$   
 $= \frac{12}{3}$   $= -2$   
 $= 4$

$\therefore P(4,-2)$

By observation  
 Q divides AB internally in the ratio 1:2

c)

$CF = CE$   
 since tangents from an exterior point are equal.  
 $\therefore \triangle CFE$  is isosceles.  
 $\therefore \angle CEF = \frac{1}{2}(180^\circ - 50^\circ)$  (Lsum  $\Delta = 180^\circ$ )  
 $= \frac{1}{2} \times 130^\circ$   
 $= 65^\circ$

$\angle EDF = \angle CEF$   
 $= 65^\circ$   
 (Angles in the alternate segments are equal.)

Com 3

d) LHS =  $\frac{1 - \tan^2 A}{1 + \tan^2 A}$   
 $= \frac{1 - \frac{\sin^2 A}{\cos^2 A}}{1 + \frac{\sin^2 A}{\cos^2 A}}$   
 $= \frac{\frac{\cos^2 A - \sin^2 A}{\cos^2 A}}{\frac{\cos^2 A + \sin^2 A}{\cos^2 A}}$   
 $= \frac{\cos^2 A - \sin^2 A}{\cos^2 A} \times \frac{\cos^2 A}{1}$   
 $= \cos^2 A - \sin^2 A$   
 $= \cos 2A$

Reas 2

2)  $P(x) = x^3 + x^2 + x - 2$  (X)  
 Roots  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$   
 should have been  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  (otherwise  $x \neq 1$  !!)

i) Product of roots  
 $\alpha\beta\gamma = -\frac{d}{a}$   
 $= -\frac{-2}{1}$   
 $= 2$

ii) Sum of Roots  
 $\alpha + \beta + \gamma = -\frac{b}{a}$   
 $= -1$

Sum two at a time  
 $\alpha\beta + \alpha\gamma + \beta\gamma = \frac{c}{a}$   
 $= 1$

$\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta} + \frac{1}{\gamma} = \frac{\beta\gamma + \alpha\gamma + \alpha\beta}{\alpha\beta\gamma}$   
 put  $\alpha = 1$   
 $1 + \frac{1}{\beta} + \frac{1}{\gamma} = \frac{1}{2}$   
 $\frac{1}{\beta} + \frac{1}{\gamma} = -\frac{1}{2}$

b) i)  $y = x^2 + 3$   
 $y = 2x$   
 At (1,4) gradient tangent  
 $m_1 = 2$   
 Calculus 1

ii)  $y = 3x + 1$   
 $m_2 = 3$   
 Acute angle  
 $\tan \theta = \left| \frac{m_1 - m_2}{1 + m_1 m_2} \right|$   
 $= \left| \frac{2 - 3}{1 + 2 \times 3} \right|$   
 $= \left| \frac{-1}{7} \right|$   
 $= \frac{1}{7}$   
 $\theta = 8^\circ 8'$  (to nearest minute)

c)



Tangent at  $P(2at, at^2)$

$$tx - y - at^2 = 0$$

cuts the directrix  $l$  at  $T$

directrix is  $y = -a$

Solve simultaneously

$$\begin{cases} tx - y - at^2 = 0 & \textcircled{1} \\ y = -a & \textcircled{2} \end{cases}$$

substitute  $\textcircled{2}$  into  $\textcircled{1}$

$$tx + a - at^2 = 0$$

$$tx = at^2 - a$$

$$x = \frac{a(t^2 - 1)}{t}$$



$T$  has coordinates

$$\left( \frac{a(t^2 - 1)}{t}, -a \right)$$

ii) Focus  $F(0, a)$   
 $P(2at, at^2)$

Gradient  $TF$

$$m_1 = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$

$$= \frac{-a - a}{\frac{a(t^2 - 1)}{t} - 0}$$

$$= \frac{-2a}{\frac{a(t^2 - 1)}{t}}$$

$$= \frac{-2t}{t^2 - 1}$$



Gradient  $PF$

$$m_2 = \frac{at^2 - a}{2at - 0}$$

$$= \frac{a(t^2 - 1)}{2at}$$

$$= \frac{t^2 - 1}{2t}$$



$$\text{Since } m_1 \times m_2 = \frac{-2t}{t^2 - 1} \times \frac{t^2 - 1}{2t}$$

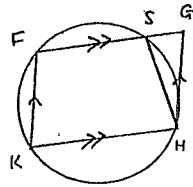
$$= -1$$

$\therefore TF \perp PF$

Key 3



d)



$FGHK$  is a parallelogram

$\therefore \angle FKH = \angle FGH$  (opposite  $\angle$ s in a parm.)  
 $= x$

$F, S, H, K$  lie on a circle

$\therefore FSHK$  is a cyclic quadrilateral

$\therefore \angle FKH + \angle FSH = 180^\circ$   
(opp.  $\angle$ s in a cyclic quad. are supplementary)

$$\begin{aligned} \angle FSH &= 180^\circ - \angle FKH \\ &= 180^\circ - x \end{aligned}$$

$\angle GSH = 180^\circ - \angle FSH$  ( $\angle$  sum straight  $L = 180^\circ$ )  
 $= 180^\circ - (180^\circ - x)$   
 $= x$

Key 2

$\therefore \angle SGH = \angle GSH = x$

$\therefore \triangle HGS$  is isosceles since it has 2 equal angles.

Q3

a)  $P(x) = 6x^3 - 5x^2 - 2x + 1$

i)  $P(1) = 6 - 5 - 2 + 1 = 0$

$\therefore x = 1$  is a zero of  $P(x)$

$\therefore (x - 1)$  is a factor of  $P(x)$

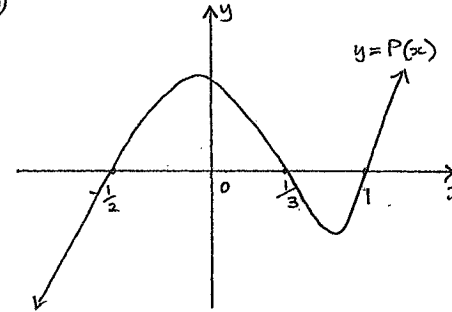


ii) 
$$\begin{array}{l} \frac{6x^2 + x - 1}{x - 1} \frac{6x^3 - 5x^2 - 2x + 1}{6x^3 - 6x^2} \\ \frac{x^2 - x}{-x} \\ \frac{-x + 1}{0} \end{array}$$

$\therefore P(x) = (x - 1)(6x^2 + x - 1)$

$$= (x - 1)(3x - 1)(2x + 1)$$

iii)



$$P(x) \leq 0$$

for

$$x \leq -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3} \leq x \leq 1$$



b)  $y = \sqrt{x}$

$$f(x) = \sqrt{x}$$

$$f(x+h) = \sqrt{x+h}$$

Using first principles

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x+h} - \sqrt{x}}{h}$$

using the given substitution

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+0} + \sqrt{x}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

Calc 2

c) i)  $4 \sin \theta - 3 \cos \theta$

$$= A \sin(\theta - \alpha)$$

$$= A \sin \theta \cos \alpha - A \cos \theta \sin \alpha$$

Match parts

$$A \cos \alpha = 4 \quad \textcircled{1}$$

$$A \sin \alpha = 3 \quad \textcircled{2}$$

Find  $A$

$$A^2 = 4^2 + 3^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \sqrt{16 + 9} \\ &= \sqrt{25} \\ &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

Find  $\alpha$   
divide  $\textcircled{2}/\textcircled{1}$

$$\tan \alpha = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\therefore \alpha \doteq 37^\circ$$

$$\therefore 4 \sin \theta - 3 \cos \theta = 5 \sin(\theta - 37^\circ)$$

$$\text{ii) } 4 \sin \theta - 3 \cos \theta = 1$$

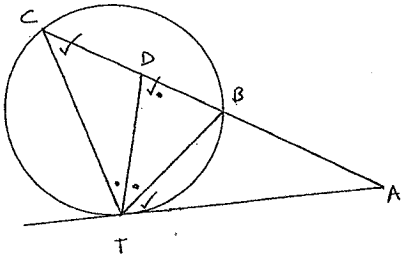
$$5 \sin(\theta - 37^\circ) = 1$$

$$\sin(\theta - 37^\circ) = \frac{1}{5}$$

$$\therefore \theta - 37^\circ = 11^\circ 32' \text{ or } 168^\circ 28'$$

$$\therefore \theta = 49^\circ \text{ or } 205^\circ$$

d)



$\angle CTD = \angle BTD$  (given)

$\angle ATB = \angle TCD$  ( $\angle$  in the alt segment =  $\angle$  between chord + tangent)

$\angle TDB = \angle CTD + \angle TCD$  (ext.  $\angle$  in  $\Delta$ )

$\therefore \angle ATD = \angle ADT$

$\therefore AT = AD$  (sides opp =  $\angle$  in an isosceles  $\Delta$ )

Qm  
3

(4) a) i)  $\sin(A-B)$

$$= \sin A \cos B - \cos A \sin B$$

$$\sin 15^\circ = \sin(45^\circ - 30^\circ)$$

$$= \sin 45^\circ \cos 30^\circ - \cos 45^\circ \sin 30^\circ$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{3} - 1}{2\sqrt{2}}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{3} - 1}{2\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{6} - \sqrt{2}}{4}$$

ii) Prove  $\tan \alpha = \operatorname{cosec} 2\alpha - \cot 2\alpha$

$$\text{RHS} = \operatorname{cosec} 2\alpha - \cot 2\alpha$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sin 2\alpha} - \frac{\cos 2\alpha}{\sin 2\alpha}$$

$$= \frac{1 - \cos 2\alpha}{\sin 2\alpha}$$

$$= \frac{1 - (\cos^2 \alpha - \sin^2 \alpha)}{2 \sin \alpha \cos \alpha}$$

$$= \frac{1 - \cos^2 \alpha + \sin^2 \alpha}{2 \sin \alpha \cos \alpha}$$

Substituting  $1 - \cos^2 \alpha = \sin^2 \alpha$

$$= \frac{\sin^2 \alpha + \sin^2 \alpha}{2 \sin \alpha \cos \alpha}$$

$$= \frac{2 \sin^2 \alpha}{2 \sin \alpha \cos \alpha}$$

$$= \frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha}$$

$$= \tan \alpha$$

$$= \text{LHS}$$

(OR by t results)

iii)  $\tan 15^\circ = \operatorname{cosec} 30^\circ - \cot 30^\circ$

$$= \frac{1}{\sin 30^\circ} - \frac{1}{\tan 30^\circ}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{1}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}}$$

$$= 2 - \sqrt{3}$$

(OR  $\frac{\sqrt{3}-1}{\sqrt{3}+1}$ )

iv)  $\tan 7\frac{1}{2}^\circ = \operatorname{cosec} 15^\circ - \cot 15^\circ$

$$= \frac{1}{\sin 15^\circ} - \frac{1}{\tan 15^\circ}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\frac{\sqrt{6}-\sqrt{2}}{4}} - \frac{1}{2-\sqrt{3}}$$

$$= \frac{4}{\sqrt{6}-\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{2-\sqrt{3}}$$

Rationalise each denominator

$$\frac{4}{\sqrt{6}-\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{\sqrt{6}+\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{6}+\sqrt{2}} = \frac{4(\sqrt{6}+\sqrt{2})}{6-2}$$

$$= \sqrt{6} + \sqrt{2}$$

$$\frac{1}{2-\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{2+\sqrt{3}} = \frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{4-3}$$

$$= 2 + \sqrt{3}$$

$$\therefore = \sqrt{6} + \sqrt{2} - (2 + \sqrt{3})$$

$$= \sqrt{6} + \sqrt{2} - \sqrt{3} - 2$$

Ans 'a'

b)  $P(x) = A(x) \cdot Q(x) + R(x)$

$$x^3 + ax + b = (x-2)(x+3) \cdot Q(x) + 2x + 5$$

Substitute  $x=2$   $P(2) = 5$

$$8 + a + b = 0 + 4 + 1$$

$$a + b = -3 \quad \text{①}$$

Substitute  $x=-3$   $P(-3) = -5$

$$-27 - 3a + b = 0 - 6 + 1$$

$$-3a + b = 22 \quad \text{②}$$

Solve simultaneously

$$2a + b = -3 \quad \text{①}$$

$$-3a + b = 22 \quad \text{②}$$

Subtract

$$5a = -25$$

$$a = -25/5$$

$$a = -5$$

Subst. into ①

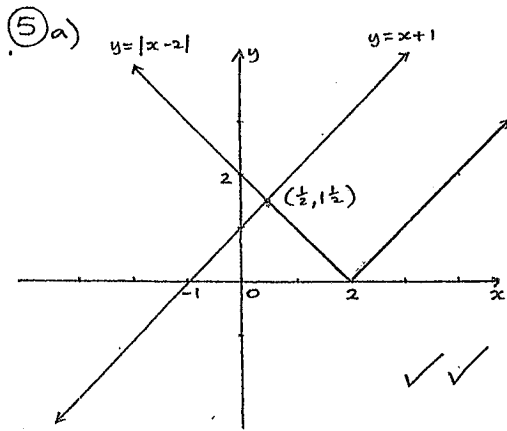
$$-10 + b = -3$$

$$b = 7$$

Solution

$$\therefore a = -5$$

$$b = 7$$

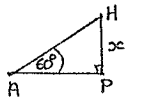
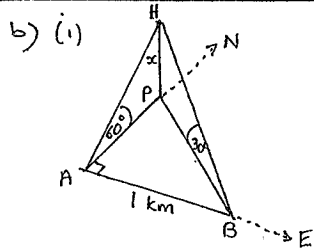


One point of intersection only  
 when  $x+1 = -(x-2)$   
 $x+1 = -x+2$   
 $2x = 1$   
 $x = 1/2$

$(\frac{1}{2}, 1\frac{1}{2})$

from the graph  
 $|x-2| < x+1$   
 for  $x > \frac{1}{2}$

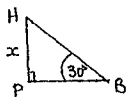
$\frac{6m}{3}$



$$\tan 60^\circ = \frac{x}{AP}$$

$$AP = \frac{x}{\tan 60^\circ}$$

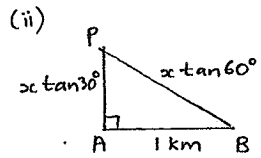
$$\text{or } AP = x \tan 30^\circ$$



$$\tan 30^\circ = \frac{x}{BP}$$

$$BP = \frac{x}{\tan 30^\circ}$$

$$\text{or } BP = x \tan 60^\circ$$



Using Pythagoras rule

$$BP^2 = AP^2 + AB^2$$

$$x^2 \tan^2 60^\circ = x^2 \tan^2 30^\circ + 1^2$$

$$x^2 \tan^2 60^\circ - x^2 \tan^2 30^\circ = 1$$

$$x^2 (\tan^2 60^\circ - \tan^2 30^\circ) = 1$$

$$x^2 = \frac{1}{\tan^2 60^\circ - \tan^2 30^\circ}$$

$$x = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\tan^2 60^\circ - \tan^2 30^\circ}}$$

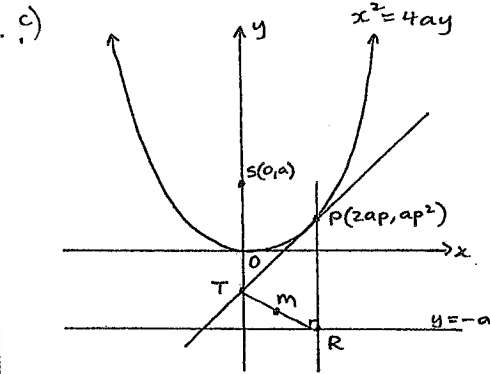
$$\approx \sqrt{\frac{1}{3 - \frac{1}{3}}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{3}{8}}$$

$$\approx 0.612372 \dots \text{ km}$$

$$\approx 612 \text{ m}$$

(to nearest metre)



$$x^2 = 4ay$$

$$\text{directrix } y = -a$$

Coordinates of R  
 $(2ap, -a)$

Equation of tangent at P

$$y = \frac{x^2}{4a}$$

$$y' = \frac{2x}{4a}$$

$$= \frac{x}{2a}$$

At P(2ap, ap^2)

$$\text{tangent } m_1 = \frac{2ap}{2a}$$

$$= p$$

$$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$$

$$y - ap^2 = p(x - 2ap)$$

$$y - ap^2 = px - 2ap^2$$

$$y = px - ap^2$$

Coordinates of T

Tangent cuts y-axis when  $x=0$

$$y = px - ap^2$$

$$y = 0 - ap^2$$

$$y = -ap^2$$

$$\therefore T(0, -ap^2)$$

midpoint of TR

$$T(0, -ap^2) \quad R(2ap, -a)$$

$$m = \left( \frac{x_1 + x_2}{2}, \frac{y_1 + y_2}{2} \right)$$

$$= \left( \frac{0 + 2ap}{2}, \frac{-ap^2 - a}{2} \right)$$

$$= \left( ap, -\frac{a(p^2 + 1)}{2} \right)$$

Locus of m.

$$\begin{cases} x = ap \\ y = -\frac{a}{2}(p^2 + 1) \end{cases}$$

Substitute  $p = \frac{x}{a}$  into y

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

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

$$y = -\frac{x^2}{2a} - \frac{a}{2}$$

The locus is a parabola.

$$(2a) \quad 2ay = -x^2 - a^2$$

$$x^2 = -2ay - a^2$$

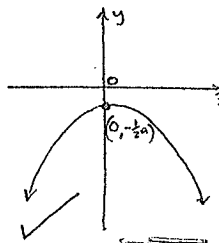
$$x^2 = -2a \left( y + \frac{1}{2}a \right)$$

$$x^2 = -4 \cdot \frac{1}{2}a \left( y + \frac{1}{2}a \right)$$

The locus is a parabola.

Vertex  $(0, -\frac{1}{2}a)$

Focal length  $= \frac{1}{2}a$



Directrix  $y = 0$

$\therefore$  The directrix is the x-axis.

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