

**SIMPLIFYING AND PROVING ALGEBRICALLY**

**Pearson Edexcel – Monday 8 June 2020 - Paper 3 (Calculator) Higher Tier**

**1.**

**15** Prove algebraically that  $0.\overline{73}$  can be written as  $\frac{11}{15}$

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(Total for Question 15 is 2 marks)

**Pearson Edexcel - Thursday 6 June 2019 - Paper 2 (Calculator) Higher Tier**

**2.**

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13 Show that  $6 + \left[ (x + 5) + \frac{x^2 + 3x - 10}{x - 1} \right]$  simplifies to  $\frac{ax - b}{cx - d}$  where  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$  and  $d$  are integers.

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(Total for Question 13 is 4 marks)

16 Prove algebraically that  $0.2\dot{5}\dot{6}$  can be written as  $\frac{127}{495}$

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(Total for Question 16 is 3 marks)

Pearson Edexcel - Monday 12 November 2018 - Paper 3 (Calculator) Higher Tier

4.

15 Prove algebraically that the difference between the squares of any two consecutive odd numbers is always a multiple of 8

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(Total for Question 15 is 3 marks)

Pearson Edexcel - Thursday 2 November 2017 - Paper 1 (Non-Calculator) Higher Tier

5.

15  $x = 0.4\dot{3}\dot{6}$

Prove algebraically that  $x$  can be written as  $\frac{24}{55}$

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(Total for Question 15 is 3 marks)

Pearson Edexcel - Thursday 2 November 2017 - Paper 1 (Non-Calculator) Higher Tier

6.

17  $n$  is an integer.

Prove algebraically that the sum of  $\frac{1}{2}n(n+1)$  and  $\frac{1}{2}(n+1)(n+2)$  is always a square number.

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(Total for Question 17 is 2 marks)

**Pearson Edexcel - Wednesday 8 November 2017 - Paper 3 (Calculator) Higher Tier**

**7.**

- 19** Prove algebraically that the straight line with equation  $x - 2y = 10$  is a tangent to the circle with equation  $x^2 + y^2 = 20$

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(Total for Question 19 is 5 marks)

**Pearson Edexcel - Thursday 8 June 2017 - Paper 2 (Calculator) Higher Tier**

**8.**

16 Using algebra, prove that  $0.1\overline{36} \times 0.\overline{2}$  is equal in value to  $\frac{1}{33}$

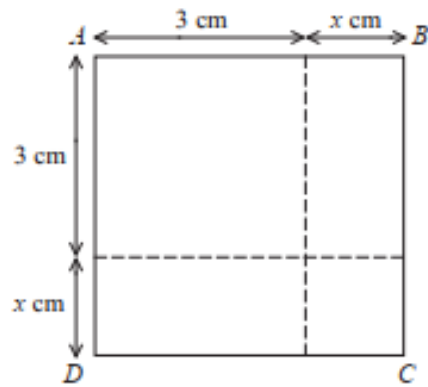
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(Total for Question 16 is 3 marks)

Pearson Edexcel - Thursday 25 May 2017 - Paper 1 (Non-Calculator) Higher Tier

9.

4



The area of square  $ABCD$  is  $10\text{ cm}^2$ .

Show that  $x^2 + 6x = 1$

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(Total for Question 4 is 3 marks)

Pearson Edexcel - Thursday 25 May 2017 - Paper 1 (Non-Calculator) Higher Tier

10.

**16**  $n$  is an integer greater than 1

Prove algebraically that  $n^2 - 2 - (n - 2)^2$  is always an even number.

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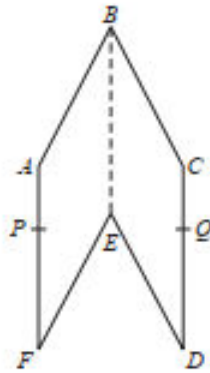
(Total for Question 16 is 4 marks)

Pearson Edexcel - Thursday 25 May 2017 - Paper 1 (Non-Calculator) Higher Tier

11.



22 The diagram shows a hexagon  $ABCDEF$ .



$ABEF$  and  $CBED$  are congruent parallelograms where  $AB = BC = x$  cm.  
 $P$  is the point on  $AF$  and  $Q$  is the point on  $CD$  such that  $BP = BQ = 10$  cm.

Given that angle  $ABC = 30^\circ$ ,

prove that  $\cos PBQ = 1 - \frac{(2 - \sqrt{3})}{200} x^2$

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(Total for Question 22 is 5 marks)

Pearson Edexcel - Specimen Papers Set 2 - Paper 3 (Calculator) Higher Tier

12.

**17** The product of two consecutive positive integers is added to the larger of the two integers.

Prove that the result is always a square number.

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(Total for Question 17 is 3 marks)

Pearson Edexcel - Specimen Papers Set 2 - Paper 3 (Calculator) Higher Tier

**13.**

**19** Prove algebraically that the recurring decimal  $0.3\dot{1}\dot{8}$  can be written as  $\frac{7}{22}$

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(Total for Question 19 is 2 marks)

**Pearson Edexcel - Specimen Papers Set 1 - Paper 1 (Non-Calculator) Higher Tier**

**14.**

- 20** Prove algebraically that the difference between the squares of any two consecutive integers is equal to the sum of these two integers.

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(Total for Question 20 is 4 marks)

**Pearson Edexcel - Specimen Papers Set 1 - Paper 2 (Calculator) Higher Tier**

**15.**

- 13** Show that

$$(3x - 1)(x + 5)(4x - 3) = 12x^3 + 47x^2 - 62x + 15$$

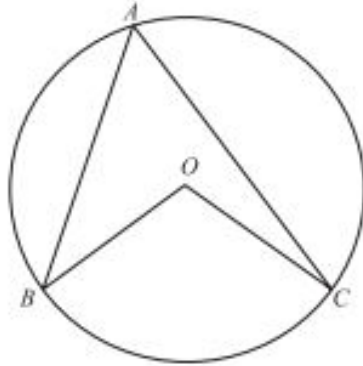
for all values of  $x$ .

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(Total of Question 13 is 3 marks)

16.

24  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  are points on the circumference of a circle centre  $O$ .



Prove that angle  $BOC$  is twice the size of angle  $BAC$ .

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(Total for Question 24 is 4 marks)

17.

14 Prove algebraically that

$(2n + 1)^2 - (2n + 1)$  is an even number

for all positive integer values of  $n$ .

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(Total for Question 14 is 3 marks)

Pearson Edexcel - Sample Paper 2 - (Calculator) Higher Tier

18.

15 Prove algebraically that the recurring decimal  $0.2\dot{5}$  has the value  $\frac{23}{90}$

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(Total for Question 15 is 2 marks)

Pearson Edexcel - Thursday 4 June 2015 - Paper 1 (Non-Calculator) Higher Tier

19.

21  $x = 0.0\dot{4}\dot{5}$

Prove algebraically that  $x$  can be written as  $\frac{1}{22}$

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(Total for Question 21 is 3 marks)

**Pearson Edexcel - Monday 8 June 2015 - Paper 2 (Calculator) Higher Tier**

**20.**

20 Show that  $(n + 3)^2 - (n - 3)^2$  is an even number for all positive integer values of  $n$ .

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(Total for Question 20 is 3 marks)

Pearson Edexcel - Friday 13 June 2014 - Paper 2 (Calculator) Higher Tier

21.

21 (a) Expand and simplify  $(y - 2)(y - 5)$

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(2)

\*(b) Prove algebraically that

$(2n + 1)^2 - (2n + 1)$  is an even number

for all positive integer values of  $n$ .

(3)

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(Total for Question 21 is 5 marks)

Pearson Edexcel - Thursday 28 February 2013 - Paper 1 (Non-Calculator) Higher Tier

22.

- \*21 Prove algebraically that the difference between the squares of any two consecutive integers is equal to the sum of these two integers.

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(Total for Question 21 is 4 marks)

Pearson Edexcel - Thursday 8 November 2012 - Paper 2 (Calculator) Higher Tier

23.

- \*25 The diagram shows the triangle  $PQR$ .

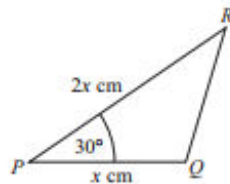


Diagram NOT  
accurately drawn

$PQ = x$  cm  
 $PR = 2x$  cm  
Angle  $QPR = 30^\circ$

The area of triangle  $PQR = A$  cm<sup>2</sup>

Show that  $x = \sqrt{2A}$

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(Total for Question 25 is 3 marks)



Pearson Edexcel - Wednesday 13 June 2012 - Paper 2 (Calculator) Higher Tier

24.

21 Prove that

$$(2n + 3)^2 - (2n - 3)^2 \text{ is a multiple of 8}$$

for all positive integer values of  $n$ .

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(Total for Question 21 is 3 marks)

Pearson Edexcel - Thursday 5 November 2009 - Paper 3 (Non-Calculator) Higher Tier

25.

23. Prove that the recurring decimal  $0.\dot{3}\dot{6} = \frac{4}{11}$

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(Total 3 marks)

26.

25. Prove, using algebra, that the sum of two consecutive whole numbers is always an odd number.

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(Total 3 marks)

27.

14 Simplify.

(a)  $4a^{\frac{1}{2}} \times 3a^2$

(b)  $\left(\frac{2a^2}{a^{-3}}\right)^3$

(a) ..... [2]

(b) ..... [3]

OCR GCSE – Tuesday 5 November 2019 – Paper 4 (Calculator) Higher Tier

28.

5 Multiply out and simplify.

$$(4x + y)(x - 3y)$$

..... [3]

OCR GCSE – Thursday 7 November 2019 – Paper 5 (Non-Calculator) Higher Tier

29.

- 3 Martina has answered some questions on algebra.  
In each question, she has made an error.

Describe her error and give the correct answer to each problem.

(a) Question 1 Simplify.  $2a \times a \times a$

Martina's answer  $4a$

Martina's error is .....

Correct answer = ..... [2]

(b) Question 2 Simplify.  $\frac{x^{10}}{x^2}$

Martina's answer  $x^5$

Martina's error is .....

Correct answer = ..... [2]

(c) Question 3  $s = ut + \frac{1}{2}at^2$

Find  $s$  when  $u = 0$ ,  $t = 5$  and  $a = 6$ .

Martina's solution  $s = 0 \times 5 + \frac{1}{2} \times 6 \times 5^2$

$$s = 0 + 15^2$$

$$s = 225$$

Martina's error is .....

Correct answer = ..... [2]

30.

2 (a) Simplify fully.

$$\frac{3a^8 \times 2a^5}{a^2}$$

(a) ..... [3]

(b) Solve.

$$\frac{6x - 10}{5} = 1$$

(b)  $x =$  ..... [3]

OCR GCSE – Thursday 6 June 2019 – Paper 5 (Non-Calculator) Higher Tier

31.

11 (a) Simplify fully.  $\sqrt{200}$

(a) ..... [2]

(b) Evaluate.  $8^{\frac{1}{3}}$

(b) ..... [1]

OCR GCSE – Tuesday 2 November 2017 – Paper 4 (Calculator) Higher Tier

32.

2 (a) Simplify.

(i)  $a^6 \div a^2$

(a)(i) ..... [1]

(ii)  $(b^5)^3$

(ii) ..... [1]

(b) Factorise.

$6x - x^2$

(b) ..... [1]

33.

13 (a) Solve.

$$x^2 - 6x + 15 = 3x - 5$$

(a)  $x = \dots\dots\dots$  or  $x = \dots\dots\dots$  [4]

(b) Expand and simplify.

$$(2x - 1)(x + 5)(3x - 2)$$

(b)  $\dots\dots\dots$  [4]



OCR GCSE – Tuesday 6 November 2017 – Paper 5 (Non - Calculator) Higher Tier

34.

- 18 Prove that the difference between two consecutive square numbers is always odd. [4]

OCR GCSE – Thursday 8 June 2017 – Paper 5 (Non - Calculator) Higher Tier

35.

- 15 (a) Simplify fully.

(i)  $\sqrt{50} + \sqrt{2}$

(a)(i) ..... [2]

(ii)  $\frac{10}{\sqrt{6}}$

(ii) ..... [2]

(b) There are two errors in Sam's method for finding the value of  $64^{-\frac{2}{3}}$  shown below.

Find the cube root of 64 and then multiply by 2.

The cube root of 64 is 4 and then  $4 \times 2 = 8$ .

The negative power makes the answer negative so answer equals -8.

Describe these errors and then give the correct value of  $64^{-\frac{2}{3}}$ .

.....  
.....

Correct value ..... [3]

**OCR GCSE – Tuesday 13 June 2017 – Paper 6 (Calculator) Higher Tier**

**36.**

16 (a) Simplify.

$$\frac{3y^3}{y^{-4}}$$

(a) ..... [1]

(b) Write as a single fraction in its simplest form.

$$\frac{3}{x-1} + \frac{4}{x+2}$$

(b) ..... [3]

37.

20 (a) Express as a single fraction.

$$\frac{m+1}{n+1} - \frac{m}{n}$$

Simplify your answer.

(a) ..... [2]

(b) Using your answer to part (a), prove that if  $m$  and  $n$  are positive integers and  $m < n$ , then

$$\frac{m+1}{n+1} - \frac{m}{n} > 0. \quad [2]$$

38.

13 (a)  $s$  and  $t$  are **positive** integers.

$(x + s)(x - t)$  is expanded and simplified.

The answer is  $x^2 + kx - 40$  where  $k$  is a positive integer.

Work out the **smallest** possible value of  $k$ .

[2 marks]

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Answer \_\_\_\_\_

13 (b) Faisal tries to solve  $(x + 2)(x - 7) = 0$

Here is his working.

$(x + 2) = 0$ or $(x - 7) = 0$
Answer $x = 2$ or $x = 7$

Give a reason why his answer is wrong.

[1 mark]

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AQA GCSE – Tuesday 21 May 2019 – Paper 1 (Non - Calculator) Higher Tier

40.

16 Simplify fully  $\frac{4x - 8x^2}{12x - 6}$

[3 marks]

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Answer \_\_\_\_\_

AQA GCSE – Tuesday 11 June 2019 – Paper 3 (Calculator) Higher Tier

41.

15 Simplify fully  $\frac{a^3b^2}{cd} \times \frac{c}{ab^5}$

[3 marks]

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Answer \_\_\_\_\_

AQA GCSE – Tuesday 6 November 2018 – Paper 1 (Non - Calculator) Higher Tier

42.

3 Simplify  $16a^2 \div a + 3a \times 2$

Circle your answer.

[1 mark]

$22a$

$8a$

$38a$

$2a$

AQA GCSE – Thursday 8 November 2018 – Paper 2 (Calculator) Higher Tier

43.

20  $n$  is a positive integer.

Prove algebraically that  $2n^2\left(\frac{3}{n} + n\right) + 6n(n^2 - 1)$  is a cube number.

[3 marks]

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AQA GCSE – Thursday 8 November 2018 – Paper 2 (Calculator) Higher Tier

44.

22 Simplify fully  $\frac{x^5 - 4x^3}{3x - 6}$

[3 marks]

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Answer \_\_\_\_\_

AQA GCSE – Monday 24 May 2018 – Paper 1 (Non - Calculator) Higher Tier

45.

3 Circle the expression that is equivalent to  $3a - a \times 4a + 2a$

[1 mark]

$8a^2 + 2a$

$12a^2$

$5a - 4a^2$

$3a - 6a^2$



46.

13 Show that, for  $x \neq -1$

$\frac{8x^2 - 8}{4x + 4}$  simplifies to the form  $ax + b$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers.

[3 marks]

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AQA GCSE – Thursday 7 June 2018 – Paper 2 (Calculator) Higher Tier

47.

27 Prove algebraically that  $2.7\dot{5}$  converts to the fraction  $\frac{124}{45}$

[3 marks]

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AQA GCSE – Sample Paper 2 (Calculator) Higher Tier

48.

3 Circle the expression that is equivalent to  $2a + 5a \times 4a - a$

[1 mark]

$a + 20a^2$

$21a^2$

$28a^2 - a$

$2a + 15a^2$

AQA GCSE – Tuesday 12 June 2018 – Paper 3 (Calculator) Higher Tier

48.

18 Show that, for  $x \neq 0$

$$\frac{x+4}{3x} - \frac{5}{2x}$$

can be written in the form  $\frac{ax+b}{cx}$  where  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  are integers.

[3 marks]

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Answer \_\_\_\_\_

AQA GCSE – Thursday 6 November 2017 – Paper 2 (Calculator) Higher Tier

49.

11 Circle the expression that is equivalent to  $\frac{3x^2}{6x^2 + 3}$

[1 mark]

$$\frac{x^2}{2x^2 + 3}$$

$$\frac{x^2}{6x^2 + 1}$$

$$\frac{x^2}{2x^2 + 1}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} + x^2$$

AQA GCSE – Wednesday 8 November 2017 – Paper 3 (Calculator) Higher Tier

50.

5 Multiply out and simplify  $(x - 8)^2$

[2 marks]

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Answer \_\_\_\_\_

AQA GCSE – Wednesday 25 May 2017 – Paper 1 (Non - Calculator) Higher Tier

51.

1 Simplify  $2^5 \times 2^3$   
Circle your answer.

[1 mark]

$4^8$

$2^8$

$2^{15}$

$4^{15}$

AQA GCSE – Tuesday 13 June 2017 – Paper 3 (Calculator) Higher Tier

52.

27 Prove that  $x^2 + x + 1$  is always positive.

[3 marks]

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AQA GCSE – Sample Paper 1 (Non - Calculator) Higher Tier

53.

26 Rationalise the denominator and simplify  $\frac{10}{3\sqrt{5}}$

[2 marks]

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Answer \_\_\_\_\_