



SKEGNESS  
ACADEMY

# Thinking of A Level Mathematics?

Year 11 → Year 12 Transition

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Purpose

This work gives you the opportunity to practice the skills that will be required to start A Level Mathematics successfully and identify any areas where you may need to spend additional time. We want to ensure you do not feel overwhelmed when you begin your Sixth Form studies.

You have done well in your GCSE mathematics course so we have high expectations of your algebra and number skills. Now, as an A level student, we have very high expectations for the effort you will put into the course, only through an excellent attitude to learning and work ethic can students succeed in A level maths; use this work as an example of the effort you plan to put into the course.

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**Note-** Mathswatch clip numbers in brackets for help/practice

## Laws of Indices

Things to remember:

$$a^m \times a^n = a^{m+n}$$

$$a^{-n} = \frac{1}{a^n}$$

$$a^m \div a^n = a^{m-n}$$

$$(a^m)^n = a^{mn}$$

$$a^0 = 1$$

$$a^{\frac{m}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{a^m}$$

Questions:

1. (a) Simplify  $m^5 \div m^3$

.....  
(1)

- (b) Simplify  $5x^4y^3 \times x^2y$

.....  
(2)

(Total for Question is 3 marks)

2. Write these numbers in order of size.  
Start with the smallest number.

$5^{-1}$        $0.5$        $-5$        $5^0$

.....  
(Total for Question is 2 marks)

3. Write down the value of  $125^{\frac{2}{3}}$

.....  
(Total for question is 1 mark)

4. (a) Write down the value of  $10^{-1}$

.....  
(1)

- (b) Find the value of  $27^{\frac{2}{3}}$

.....  
(2)  
(Total for Question is 3 marks)

5. (a) Find the value of  $5^0$   
.....  
(1)

(b) Find the value of  $27^{1/3}$   
.....  
(1)

(c) Find the value of  $2^{-3}$   
.....  
(1)

**(Total for Question is 3 marks)**

6. (a) Write down the value of  $27^{1/3}$   
.....  
(1)

(b) Find the value of  $27^{-1/2}$   
.....  
(2)

**(Total for Question is 3 marks)**

7. (a) Write down the value of  $64^{1/2}$   
.....  
(1)

(b) Find the value of  $\left(\frac{8}{125}\right)^{-2/3}$   
.....  
(2)

**(Total for question = 3 marks)**

8. (a) Write down the value of  $6^0$   
.....  
(1)

(b) Work out  $64^{2/3}$   
.....  
(2)

**(Total for question = 3 marks)**

## Surds

### Things to remember:

- $\sqrt{\quad}$  means square root;
- To simplify surds, find all its factors;
- To rationalise the denominator, find an equivalent fraction where the denominator is rational.

### Questions:

1. Work out

$$\frac{(5 + \sqrt{3})(5 - \sqrt{3})}{\sqrt{22}}$$

Give your answer in its simplest form.

.....  
(Total 3 marks)

2. (a) Rationalise the denominator of  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$

.....  
(1)

(b) Expand  $(2 + \sqrt{3})(1 + \sqrt{3})$   
Give your answer in the form  $a + b\sqrt{3}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers.

.....  
(2)  
(Total 3 marks)

3. (a) Rationalise the denominator of  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{7}}$

.....  
(2)

(b) (i) Expand and simplify  $(\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{15})^2$   
Give your answer in the form  $a + b\sqrt{3}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers.

.....

(ii) All measurements on the triangle are in centimetres.  
 $ABC$  is a right-angled triangle.  
 $k$  is a positive integer.

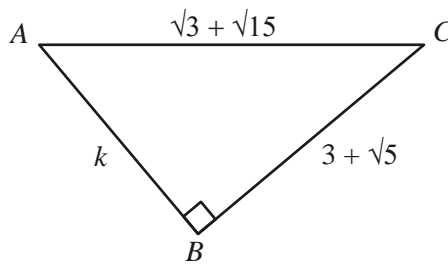


Diagram **NOT**  
accurately drawn

Find the value of  $k$ .

$k =$  .....

(5)  
(Total 7 marks)

4. Expand and simplify  $(\sqrt{3} - \sqrt{2})(\sqrt{3} - \sqrt{2})$

.....  
**(Total 2 marks)**

5. (a) Write down the value of  $49^{1/2}$

.....  
**(1)**

(b) Write  $\sqrt{45}$  in the form  $k\sqrt{5}$ , where  $k$  is an integer.

.....  
**(1)**  
**(Total 2 marks)**

6. Write  $\frac{\sqrt{18} + 10}{\sqrt{2}}$  in the form  $a + b\sqrt{2}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers.

$a =$  .....

$b =$  .....

**(Total 2 marks)**

7. Expand and simplify  $(2 + \sqrt{3})(7 - \sqrt{3})$

Give your answer in the form  $a + b\sqrt{3}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers.

.....  
**(Total 3 marks)**

8. Rationalise the denominator of  $\frac{(4 + \sqrt{2})(4 - \sqrt{2})}{\sqrt{7}}$

Give your answer in its simplest form.

.....  
**(Total for question = 3 marks)**

9. Show that  $\frac{(4 - \sqrt{3})(4 + \sqrt{3})}{\sqrt{13}}$  simplifies to  $\sqrt{13}$

**(Total for question = 2 marks)**



## Expanding and Factorising (Single Brackets)

### Things to remember:

- Expand brackets means to multiply what is outside the bracket with everything inside the bracket.
- Factorising is the opposite of expanding – put the HCF outside the brackets to factorise fully.

### Questions:

1. (a) Expand  $5(m + 2)$

.....  
(1)

(b) Factorise  $y^2 + 3y$

.....  
(1)

(c) Simplify  $a^5 \times a^4$

.....  
(1)

**(Total for Question is 3 marks)**

2. (a) Expand  $2m(m + 3)$

.....  
(1)

(b) Factorise fully  $3xy^2 - 6xy$

.....  
(2)

**(Total for Question is 3 marks)**

3. (a) Expand  $3(x + 4)$

.....  
(1)

(b) Expand  $x(x^2 + 2)$

.....  
(2)

(c) Factorise  $x^2 - 6x$

.....  
(1)

**(Total for Question is 4 marks)**

a) Expand and simplify  $5(x + 7) + 3(x - 2)$

.....  
(2)

(b) Factorise completely  $3a^2b + 6ab^2$

.....  
(2)

**(Total for Question is 4 marks)**

5. (a) Expand  $3(2y - 5)$

.....  
(1)

(b) Factorise completely  $8x^2 + 4xy$

.....  
(2)

**(Total for Question is 3 marks)**

6. (a) Factorise  $3x + 6$

.....  
(1)

(b) Expand and simplify  $5(y - 2) + 2(y - 3)$

.....  
(2)

**(Total for Question is 3 marks)**

7. (a) Factorise  $4x + 10y$

.....  
(1)

(b) Factorise  $x^2 + 7x$

.....  
(1)

**(Total for Question is 2 marks)**

## Solving Equations

### Things to remember:

- “Solve” means to find the value of the variable (what number the letter represents).
- The inverse of + is – and the inverse of  $\times$  is  $\div$
- Work one step at a time, keeping you = signs in line on each new row of working.

### Questions:

1. Solve  $4x + 3 = 19$

$x = \dots\dots\dots$   
**(Total 2 marks)**

2. (a) Solve  $6x - 7 = 38$

$x = \dots\dots\dots$   
**(2)**

(b) Solve  $4(5y - 2) = 40$

$y = \dots\dots\dots$   
**(3)**  
**(Total 5 marks)**

3. Solve  $5(2y + 3) = 20$

$y = \dots\dots\dots$   
**(Total 3 marks)**

4. (a) Solve  $7x + 18 = 74$

$x = \dots\dots\dots$   
(2)

(b) Solve  $4(2y - 5) = 32$

$y = \dots\dots\dots$   
(2)

(c) Solve  $5p + 7 = 3(4 - p)$

$p = \dots\dots\dots$   
(3)  
**(Total 7 marks)**

5. (a) Solve  $7p + 2 = 5p + 8$

$p = \dots\dots\dots$   
(2)

(b) Solve  $7r + 2 = 5(r - 4)$

$r = \dots\dots\dots$   
(2)  
**(Total 4 marks)**

6. Solve  
 $4y + 1 = 2y + 8$

$y = \dots\dots\dots$   
**(Total 2 marks)**

7. Solve  $4y + 3 = 2y + 8$

$y = \dots\dots\dots$   
**(Total 2 marks)**

## Rearranging Formulae

### Things to remember:

- Firstly decide what needs to be on its own.
- Secondly move all terms that contain that letter to one side. Remember to move all terms if it appears in more than one.
- Thirdly separate out the required letter on its own.

### Questions:

1. Make  $u$  the subject of the formula  
 $D = ut + kt^2$

$$u = \dots\dots\dots$$

**(Total 2 marks)**

2. (a) Solve  $4(x + 3) = 6$

$$x = \dots\dots\dots$$

**(3)**

- (b) Make  $t$  the subject of the formula  $v = u + 5t$

$$t = \dots\dots\dots$$

**(2)**  
**(Total 5 marks)**

3. (a) Expand and simplify  
 $(x - y)^2$

$$\dots\dots\dots$$

**(2)**

- (b) Rearrange  $a(q - c) = d$  to make  $q$  the subject.

$$Q = \dots\dots\dots$$

**(3)**  
**(Total 5 marks)**

4. Make  $x$  the subject of  
 $5(x - 3) = y(4 - 3x)$

$x = \dots\dots\dots$   
**(Total 4 marks)**

5. 
$$P = \frac{n^2 + a}{n + a}$$
Rearrange the formula to make  $a$  the subject.

$A = \dots\dots\dots$   
**(Total 4 marks)**

6. 
$$\frac{x}{x + c} = \frac{p}{q}$$
Make  $x$  the subject of the formula.

$X = \dots\dots\dots$   
**(Total 4 marks)**

## Linear Simultaneous Equations

### Things to remember:

1. Scale up (if necessary)
2. Add or subtract (to eliminate)
3. Solve (to find x)
4. Substitute (to find y) (or the other way around)

### Questions:

- \*1. The Singh family and the Peterson family go to the cinema.  
The Singh family buy 2 adult tickets and 3 child tickets.  
They pay £28.20 for the tickets.  
The Peterson family buy 3 adult tickets and 5 child tickets.  
They pay £44.75 for the tickets.  
Find the cost of each adult ticket and each child ticket.

**(Total for question = 5 marks)**

2. Solve the simultaneous equations

$$3x + 4y = 5$$

$$2x - 3y = 9$$

$x = \dots\dots\dots$

$y = \dots\dots\dots$

**(Total for Question is 4 marks)**



3. Solve the simultaneous equations

$$4x + 7y = 1$$

$$3x + 10y = 15$$

$x = \dots\dots\dots$

$y = \dots\dots\dots$

**(Total for Question is 4 marks)**

4. Solve

$$2x + 3y = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$3x - 4y = 18$$

$x = \dots\dots\dots$

$y = \dots\dots\dots$

**(Total for Question is 4 marks)**

5. Solve the simultaneous equations

$$4x + y = 25$$

$$x - 3y = 16$$

$x =$  .....

$y =$  .....

**(Total for Question is 3 marks)**

6. Solve the simultaneous equations

$$3x - 2y = 7$$

$$7x + 2y = 13$$

$x =$  .....

$y =$  .....

**(Total for Question is 3 marks)**

7. A cinema sells adult tickets and child tickets.  
The total cost of 3 adult tickets and 1 child ticket is £30  
The total cost of 1 adult ticket and 3 child tickets is £22  
Work out the cost of an adult ticket and the cost of a child ticket.

adult ticket £.....

child ticket £.....

**(Total for question = 4 marks)**

- \*8. Paper clips are sold in small boxes and in large boxes.  
There is a total of 1115 paper clips in 4 small boxes and 5 large boxes.  
There is a total of 530 paper clips in 3 small boxes and 2 large boxes.  
Work out the number of paper clips in each small box and in each large box.

**(Total for Question is 5 marks)**

## Expand and Factorise Quadratics

### Things to remember:

- Use FOIL (first, outside, inside, last) or the grid method (for multiplication) to expand brackets.
- For any quadratic  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ , find a pair of numbers with a sum of  $b$  and a product of  $ac$  to factorise.

### Questions:

1. Expand and simplify  $(m + 7)(m + 3)$

.....  
**(Total for question = 2 marks)**

2. (a) Factorise  $6 + 9x$

.....  
**(1)**

(b) Factorise  $y^2 - 16$

.....  
**(1)**

(c) Factorise  $2p^2 - p - 10$

.....  
**(2)**  
**(Total for Question is 4 marks)**

3. Solve, by factorising, the equation  $8x^2 - 30x - 27 = 0$

.....  
**(Total for Question is 3 marks)**

4. Factorise  $x^2 + 3x - 4$

.....  
**(Total for question is 2 marks)**

5. Write  $x^2 + 2x - 8$  in the form  $(x + m)^2 + n$  where  $m$  and  $n$  are integers.

.....  
**(Total for question is 2 marks)**

6. (a) Expand  $4(3x + 5)$

.....  
**(1)**

(b) Expand and simplify  $2(x - 4) + 3(x + 5)$

.....  
**(2)**

(c) Expand and simplify  $(x + 4)(x + 6)$

.....  
**(2)**  
**(Total for Question is 5 marks)**

7. (a) Factorise  $x^2 + 5x + 4$

.....  
**(2)**

(b) Expand and simplify  $(3x - 1)(2x + 5)$

.....  
**(2)**  
**(Total for Question is 4 marks)**

8. (a) Expand  $3(2 + t)$  ..... (1)

(b) Expand  $3x(2x + 5)$  ..... (2)

(c) Expand and simplify  $(m + 3)(m + 10)$  ..... (2)

(Total for Question is 5 marks)

9. (a) Factorise  $x^2 + 7x$  ..... (1)

(b) Factorise  $y^2 - 10y + 16$  ..... (2)

\*(c) (i) Factorise  $2t^2 + 5t + 2$  ..... (2)

(ii)  $t$  is a positive whole number.  
The expression  $2t^2 + 5t + 2$  can never have a value that is a prime number.  
Explain why.

.....

.....

.....

(3)

(Total for Question is 6 marks)

## Using the Quadratic Formula

### Things to remember:

- For any quadratic,  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ ,

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

### Questions:

1. Solve  $3x^2 + 7x - 13 = 0$   
Give your solutions correct to 2 decimal places.

$x = \dots\dots\dots$  Or  $x = \dots\dots\dots$   
**(3 marks)**

2. Solve the equation  
 $2x^2 + 6x - 95 = 0$   
Give your solutions correct to 3 significant figures.

$x = \dots\dots\dots$  Or  $x = \dots\dots\dots$   
**(3 marks)**

3. Solve  $x^2 + 3x - 5 = 0$   
Give your solutions correct to 4 significant figures.

.....

**(3 marks)**

4. Solve this quadratic equation.

$$x^2 - 5x - 8 = 0$$

Give your answers correct to 3 significant figures.

x = .....Or x = .....

**(3 marks)**

5. (a) Solve  $x^2 - 2x - 1 = 0$

Give your solutions correct to 2 decimal places.

.....  
**(3)**

(b) Write down the solutions, correct to 2 decimal places, of  $3x^2 - 6x - 3 = 0$

.....  
**(3)**



(6 marks)

6. (a) Solve  $x^2 + x + 11 = 14$   
Give your solutions correct to 3 significant figures.

.....  
(3)

$y = x^2 + x + 11$  The value of  $y$  is a prime number when  $x = 0, 1, 2$  and  $3$

The following statement is not true.

' $y = x^2 + x + 11$  is always a prime number when  $x$  is an integer'

- (b) Show that the statement is not true.

.....  
.....  
(1)

(4 marks)

## **Completing the Square**

### **Things to remember:**

- To complete the square:
  1. Halve the coefficient of x.
  2. Put in brackets with the x and square the brackets.
  3. Subtract the half-coefficient squared.
  4. Don't forget the constant on the end!
  5. Simply.
- For  $(x - p)^2 + q = 0$ , the turning point is  $(p, q)$ .

### **Questions:**

1.
  - (i) Sketch the graph of  $f(x) = x^2 - 5x + 10$ , showing the coordinates of the turning point and the coordinates of any intercepts with the coordinate axes.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - (ii) Hence, or otherwise, determine whether  $f(x + 2) - 3 = 0$  has any real roots. Give reasons for your answer.

**(Total for question = 6 marks)**

2. (a) Write  $2x^2 + 16x + 35$  in the form  $a(x + b)^2 + c$  where  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are integers.

.....  
**(3)**

(b) Hence, or otherwise, write down the coordinates of the turning point of the graph of  $y = 2x^2 + 16x + 35$

.....  
**(1)**  
**(Total for question = 4 marks)**

3. The expression  $x^2 - 8x + 21$  can be written in the form  $(x - a)^2 + b$  for all values of  $x$ .

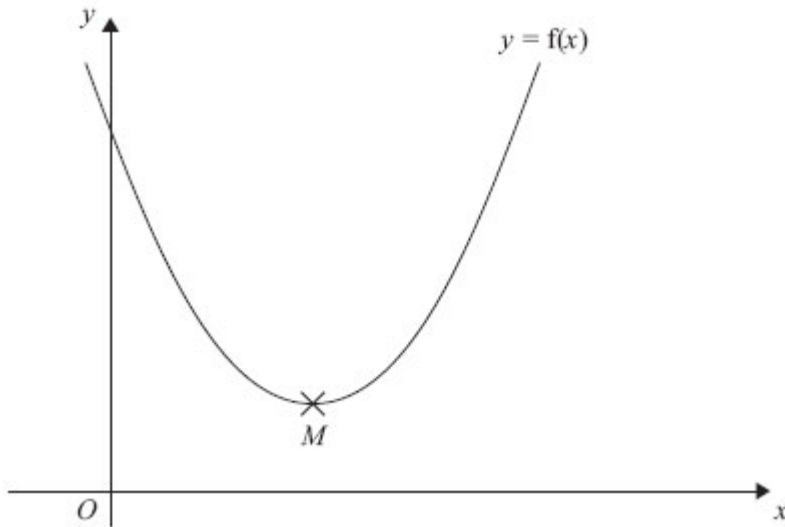
(a) Find the value of  $a$  and the value of  $b$ .

$a =$  .....

$b = \dots\dots\dots$

**(3)**

The equation of a curve is  $y = f(x)$  where  $f(x) = x^2 - 8x + 21$   
The diagram shows part of a sketch of the graph of  $y = f(x)$ .



The minimum point of the curve is  $M$ .

(b) Write down the coordinates of  $M$ .

$\dots\dots\dots$

**(1)**

**(Total for Question is 4 marks)**

## Nonlinear Simultaneous Equations

### Things to remember:

1. Substitute the linear equation into the nonlinear equation.
2. Rearrange so it equals 0.
3. Factorise and solve for the first variable (remember there will be two solutions).
4. Substitute the first solutions to solve for the second variable.
5. Express the solution as a pair of coordinate where the graphs intersect.

### Questions:

1. Solve the equations  
 $x^2 + y^2 = 36$   
 $x = 2y + 6$

.....  
(Total for Question is 5 marks)

3. Solve the simultaneous equations

$$x^2 + y^2 = 25$$

$$y = 2x + 5$$

$x = \dots\dots\dots$  and  $y = \dots\dots\dots$

or

$x = \dots\dots\dots$  and  $y = \dots\dots\dots$

**(Total for Question is 6 marks)**

4. Solve the simultaneous equations  $x^2 + y^2 = 9$   
 $x + y = 2$   
Give your answers correct to 2 decimal places.

$x = \dots\dots\dots y = \dots\dots\dots$

or  $x = \dots\dots\dots y = \dots\dots\dots$

**(Total for Question is 6 marks)**

5. Solve algebraically the simultaneous equations

$$x^2 + y^2 = 25$$

$$y - 2x = 5$$

**(Total for Question is 5 marks)**



## Expanding more than two binomials

### Things to remember:

- Start by expanding two pair of brackets using the grid or FOIL method.
- Then expand the third set of brackets.
- Use columns to keep  $x^3$ ,  $x^2$  etc in line to help with addition.

### Questions:

1. Show that

$$(x - 1)(x + 2)(x - 4) = x^3 - 3x^2 - 6x + 8$$

for all values of  $x$ .

.....  
(Total for question is 3 marks)

2. Show that

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

for all values of  $x$ .

.....  
**(Total for question is 3 marks)**

3. Show that  
 $(x - 3)(2x + 1)(x + 3) = 2x^3 + x^2 - 18x - 9$   
for all values of  $x$ .

.....  
**(Total for question is 3 marks)**

4.  $(2x + 1)(x + 6)(x - 4) = 2x^3 + ax^2 + bx - 24$   
for all values of  $x$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers.  
Calculate the values of  $a$  and  $b$ .

$a =$  .....

$b =$  .....

**(Total for question is 4 marks)**