

Suggested Solution for 2025 HKDSE Mathematics(core) Multiple Choice Questions

1. C

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{(27x)^5}{(3x^{-2})^4} \\
 &= \frac{(3^3x)^5}{3^4x^{-8}} \\
 &= \frac{3^{15}x^5x^8}{3^4} \\
 &= 3^{15-4}x^{5+8} \\
 &= 3^{11}x^{13}
 \end{aligned}$$

2. B

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 36 - (3m + 4n)^2 \\
 &= [6 + (3m + 4n)][6 - (3m + 4n)] \\
 &= (6 + 3m + 4n)(6 - 3m - 4n)
 \end{aligned}$$

3. D

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (x + 8)(x + a) + b \equiv x^2 + 5a(x + 3) \\
 & x^2 + (8 + a)x + 8a + b \equiv x^2 + 5ax + 15a \\
 & \text{By comparing the coefficient of } x, \\
 & 8 + a = 5a \\
 & a = 2 \\
 & \text{By comparing the constant term,} \\
 & 8(2) + b = 15(2) \\
 & b = 14
 \end{aligned}$$

Alternatively

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (x + 8)(x + a) + b \equiv x^2 + 5a(x + 3) \\
 & \text{Put } x = -8, \\
 & b = 64 - 25a \quad \text{i.e. } 25a + b = 64 \dots (1) \\
 & \text{Put } x = -3, \\
 & 5(-3 + a) + b = 9 \quad \text{i.e. } 5a + b = 24 \dots (2) \\
 & \text{Solving (1) and (2),} \\
 & \text{we have } a = 2 \text{ and } b = 14
 \end{aligned}$$

4. A

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (3c + 1)(d - 4) = 2d(5c - 1) \\
 & 3cd + d - 12c - 4 = 10cd - 2d \\
 & 7cd + 12c = 3d - 4 \\
 & c(7d + 12) = 3d - 4 \\
 & c = \frac{3d-4}{7d+12}
 \end{aligned}$$

5. A

$$x^2 + 4x = k^2 - 2k - 3$$

$$x^2 + 4x - (k-3)(k+1) = 0$$

By cross method,

$$[x - (k-3)][x + (k+1)] = 0$$

$$x = k-3 \text{ or } x = -k-1$$

$$\begin{array}{cc} x & k+1 \\ & \times \\ x & -(k-3) \end{array}$$

Alternatively

By quadratic formula,

$$x = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{4^2 - 4[-(k-3)(k+1)]}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{4k^2 - 8k + 4}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{4(k-1)^2}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{-4 + (2k-2)}{2} \text{ or } \frac{-4 - (2k-2)}{2}$$

$$= k-3 \text{ or } x = -k-1$$

6. D

Note that for correcting to 2 decimal places, the absolute error = $0.01 \div 2 = 0.005$ The range will be 5.67 ± 0.005 i.e. $5.665 \leq x < 5.675$.

7. D

$$4y + 1 < 5y - 3 \leq 8y - 9$$

$$4y + 1 < 5y - 3 \text{ and } 5y - 3 \leq 8y - 9$$

$$y > 4 \text{ and } 3y \geq 6$$

$$y > 4 \text{ and } y \geq 2$$

$$\therefore y > 4$$

8. C

$$f(4) + f(-4) = 38$$

$$\rightarrow 4^2 + 7(4) + k + (-4)^2 + 7(-4) + k = 38$$

$$\rightarrow k = 3$$

9. D

By Factor theorem,

$$p(-3) = 0$$

$$\text{i.e. } n(-3)^3 - 3n(-3) + 36 = 0$$

$$\rightarrow n = 2$$

$$\therefore p(3) = 2(3)^3 - 3(2)(3) + 36 \\ = 72$$

10. C

The amount

$$= \$40\,000 \left(1 + \frac{3\%}{2}\right)^{5 \times 2}$$

$$= \$46\,422 \text{ (correct to the nearest dollar)}$$

11. A

$$\frac{\alpha + 2\beta}{\gamma + 2\alpha} = \frac{4}{5}$$

$$\Rightarrow 4\gamma = 10\beta - 3\alpha \dots (1)$$

$$\frac{\alpha + 2\beta}{\beta + 2\gamma} = \frac{4}{9}$$

$$\Rightarrow 8\gamma = 9\alpha + 14\beta \dots (2)$$

Combining (1) and (2),

$$20\beta - 6\alpha = 9\alpha + 14\beta$$

$$\frac{\alpha}{\beta} = \frac{2}{5} \text{ i.e. } \alpha : \beta = 2 : 5$$

12. C

Let $z = \frac{kx^3}{y^2}$ where k is a constant.

$$3 = \frac{k(3)^3}{6^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow k = 4$$

When $x = 5$ and $y = 2$,

$$z = \frac{4(5)^3}{2^2}$$

$$= 125$$

13. A

$$a_4 = 2a_3 + a_2$$

$$= 2a_3 + 3$$

$$a_5 = 2a_4 + a_3$$

$$41 = 2(2a_3 + 3) + a_3$$

$$= 5a_3 + 6$$

$$a_3 = 7$$

$$a_4 = 2(7) + 3 = 17$$

$$\therefore a_6 = 2a_5 + a_4$$

$$= 2(41) + 17$$

$$= 99$$

14. A

$$px + qy = 7 \quad \text{i.e.} \quad y = \frac{-p}{q}x + \frac{7}{q}$$

Note that slope = $\frac{-p}{q}$ and the y -intercept = $\frac{7}{q}$

When $y = 0$, the x -intercept of $L = \frac{7}{p}$.

From the figure, $0 < \frac{7}{p} < 1$

$$\rightarrow p > 7$$

$\therefore$ I is true.

From the figure,

$$1 < \frac{7}{q}$$

$$\rightarrow q < 7 < p$$

$\therefore$ II and III are NOT true.

15. D

Let θ be the angle at the centre of the sector OMN .

$$2\pi(3\pi) \times \frac{\theta}{360^\circ} + 3\pi + 3\pi = 12\pi$$

$$\theta = \frac{360^\circ}{\pi} \approx 114.591559^\circ > 100^\circ$$

$\therefore$ III is true.

The area of the sector OMN

$$= \pi(3\pi)^2 \times \frac{360^\circ}{\pi} \times \frac{1}{360^\circ}$$

$$= 9\pi^2$$

$\therefore$ I is true.

By cosine formula,

$$MN^2 = (3\pi)^2 + (3\pi)^2 - 2(3\pi)(3\pi)\cos\frac{360^\circ}{\pi}$$

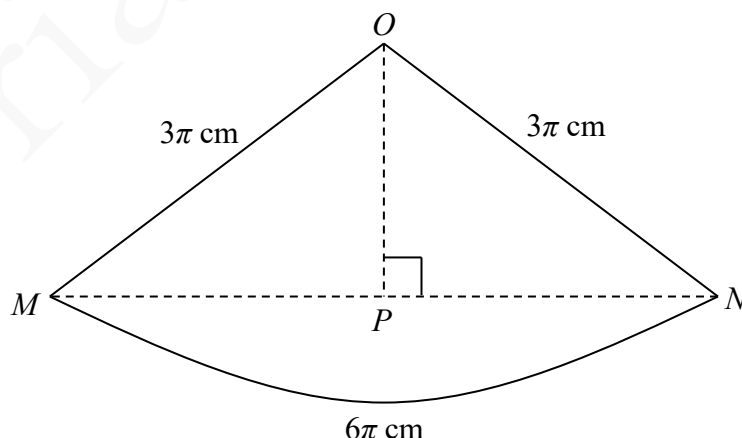
$$MN \approx 15.86135438$$

The perimeter of $\triangle OMN$

$$\approx 15.86135438 + 3\pi + 3\pi$$

$$\approx 34.71091031 \text{ cm} < 35 \text{ cm}$$

$\therefore$ II is true.



Alternatively

Let P be the foot of the perpendicular from O to MN .

$$\angle MOP = \angle NOP = \frac{360^\circ}{2\pi}$$

$$MP = NP = 3\pi \sin \frac{360^\circ}{2\pi}$$

The perimeter of $\triangle OMN$

$$= 2 \times 3\pi \sin \frac{360^\circ}{2\pi} + 3\pi + 3\pi$$

$$\approx 34.71091031 \text{ cm} < 35 \text{ cm}$$

16. B

Let r cm be the radii of the right circular cylinder and the sphere respectively.

$$2\pi r \times 35 + 2\pi r^2 = 492\pi$$

$$r^2 + 35r - 246 = 0$$

$$r = 6 \text{ or } -41(\text{rejected})$$

The volume of the sphere

$$= \frac{4}{3}\pi(6)^3$$

$$= 288\pi \text{ cm}^3$$

17. B

Note that $ABCD$ is a parallelogram with $AB = DC$.

$$\therefore AE : BE = 1 : 3 \text{ and } CG : DG = 1 : 2$$

$$\therefore \text{Let } AE = 3k, BE = 9k, CG = 4k \text{ and } DG = 8k \text{ where } k \text{ is constant.}$$

Note also that $\triangle HGC \sim \triangle HEB$.

$$\frac{CG}{BE} = \frac{4}{9}$$

$$\frac{\text{Area of } \triangle CGH}{\text{Area of } \triangle BEH} = \left(\frac{CG}{BE}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{4}{9}\right)^2 = \frac{16}{81}$$

$$\therefore \text{Area of } \triangle BEH = 81 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$\text{Area of } \triangle BEH = \text{area of trapezium } CGEB + \text{area of } \triangle CGH$$

$$81 = \text{area of trapezium } CGEB + 16$$

$$\therefore \text{Area of trapezium } CGEB = 65 \text{ cm}^2$$

Join DE and BG .

Note that $\triangle BGC$, $\triangle GEB$, $\triangle EDG$ and $\triangle DAE$ have the same heights.

$$\therefore \text{Area of } \triangle BGC : \text{Area of } \triangle GEB = CG : BE = 4 : 9$$

$$\therefore \text{Area of trapezium } CGEB = \text{area of } \triangle BGC + \text{area of } \triangle GEB = 65 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$\therefore \text{Area of } \triangle BGC = 20 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ and area of } \triangle GEB = 45 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$\text{Area of } \triangle EDG : \text{area of } \triangle BGC = DG : CG = 2 : 1$$

$$\therefore \text{Area of } \triangle EDG = 40 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$\text{Area of } \triangle DAE : \text{area of } \triangle GEB = AE : BE = 1 : 3$$

$$\therefore \text{Area of } \triangle DAE = 15 \text{ cm}^2$$

Note that $\triangle EDF$ and $\triangle EAF$ have the same heights and

$$\text{Area of } \triangle DAE = \text{area of } \triangle EDF + \text{area of } \triangle EAF$$

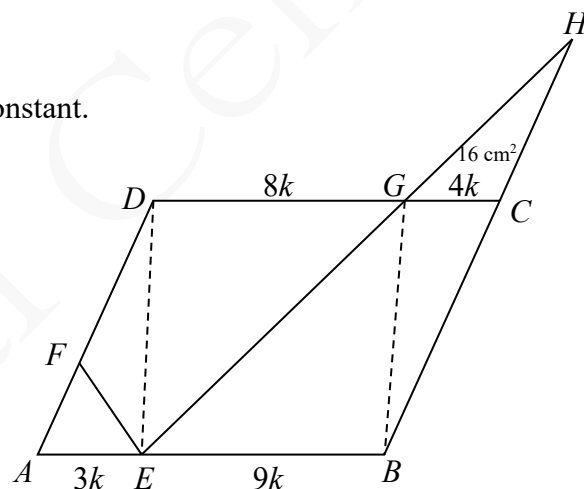
$$\therefore \text{Area of } \triangle EDF : \text{Area of } \triangle EAF = DF : AF = 3 : 2$$

$$\therefore \text{Area of } \triangle EDF = 9 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ and area of } \triangle EAF = 6 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$\text{Area of the quadrilateral } DFEG = \text{area of } \triangle EDF + \text{area of } \triangle EDG$$

$$= 9 + 40$$

$$= 49 \text{ cm}^2$$



18. C

$$\therefore \frac{WY}{XY} = \frac{XY}{YZ} \text{ and } \angle XYW = \angle ZYX$$

$$\therefore \triangle WYX \sim \triangle XYZ \text{ (ratio of 2 sides, inc. } \angle)$$

$$\therefore \frac{XY}{YZ} = \frac{WX}{XZ} = \frac{65}{60} = \frac{13}{12}$$

$$\text{i.e. } YZ = \frac{12}{13}XY$$

$$\therefore XZ^2 + WZ^2 = 60^2 + 25^2 = 65^2 = WX^2$$

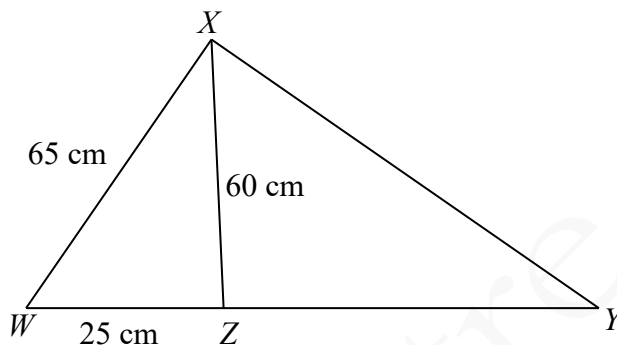
$$\therefore \angle XZW \text{ is a right } \angle. \text{ (Converse of Pythagoras' Theorem)}$$

By Pythagoras' Theorem,

$$XZ^2 + YZ^2 = XY^2$$

$$60^2 + \left(\frac{12}{13}XY\right)^2 = XY^2$$

$$XY = 156 \text{ cm}$$



19. D

 $AB = BC = CD = DA$ (Property of square) $CD = DE = EF = FC$ and $\angle EFD = \angle EDF = \angle CFD = \angle CDF$ (Property of rhombus)

$$\therefore AB = BC = CD = DA = DE = EF = FC$$

$$\angle ACB = \angle ACD = 45^\circ \text{ (Property of square)}$$

$$\therefore \angle FCB = \angle FCD = 135^\circ \text{ (adj. } \angle \text{ s on st. line)}$$

Note that $\triangle DEF \cong \triangle DCF \cong \triangle BCF$.

$$\therefore DF = BF$$

$$\angle CFB = \angle CBF \text{ (base } \angle \text{ s, isos. } \triangle)$$

$$\angle FCB + \angle CFB + \angle CBF = 180^\circ \text{ (} \angle \text{ sum of } \triangle)$$

$$135^\circ + 2\angle CFB = 180^\circ$$

$$\angle CFB = 22.5^\circ$$

$$\therefore \angle EFD = \angle EDF = \angle CFD = \angle CDF = \angle CBF = \angle CFB = 22.5^\circ$$

$$\angle FBG = \angle CFB = 22.5^\circ \text{ (alt. } \angle \text{ s, } AF \parallel BG)$$

$$\angle FGB = \angle CFD = 22.5^\circ \text{ (corr. } \angle \text{ s, } AF \parallel BG)$$

$$\therefore BF = GF \text{ (sides opp. equal } \angle \text{ s)}$$

$$\therefore DF = FG$$

$$\therefore \text{I is true.}$$

$$\therefore \angle FBG = \angle FGB = \angle EFD = \angle EDF = 22.5^\circ$$

$$\therefore \triangle BFG \sim \triangle DEF \text{ (AA)}$$

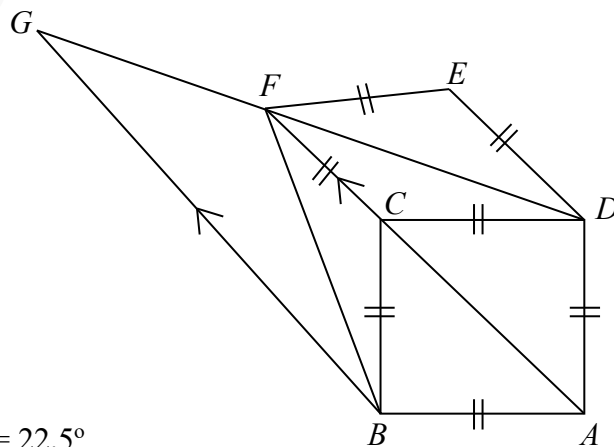
$$\therefore \text{II is true.}$$

$$\angle ABG = \angle ABC + \angle CBF + \angle FBG = 90^\circ + 22.5^\circ + 22.5^\circ = 135^\circ$$

$$\angle BFD = \angle CFB + \angle CFD = 22.5^\circ + 22.5^\circ = 45^\circ$$

$$\angle ABG + \angle BFD = 135^\circ + 45^\circ = 180^\circ$$

$$\therefore \text{III is true.}$$



20. D

Let T and U be the feet of perpendiculars drawn from S and R to PQ respectively.

Note that $\angle SPT = 60^\circ$ and $\angle RQU = 30^\circ$

$$TU = RS = 53 \text{ cm}$$

$$PT = PS \cos \angle SPT = 41 \cos 60^\circ \text{ cm}$$

$$RU = ST = PS \sin \angle SPT = 41 \sin 60^\circ \text{ cm}$$

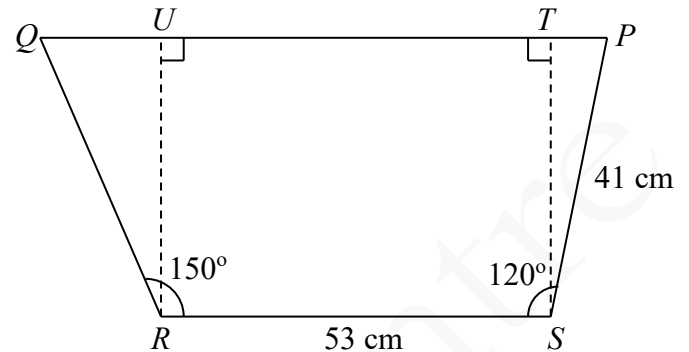
$$\frac{RU}{UQ} = \tan \angle RQU$$

$$UQ = \frac{RU}{\tan \angle RQU} = \frac{41 \sin 60^\circ}{\tan 30^\circ} \text{ cm}$$

$$\therefore PQ = PT + TU + UQ$$

$$= 41 \cos 60^\circ + 53 + \frac{41 \sin 60^\circ}{\tan 30^\circ}$$

$$= 135 \text{ cm}$$



21. B

$$\text{Area of } \triangle ADE = \frac{1}{2} \times AE \times DE = 150$$

$$\text{i.e. } \frac{1}{2} \times 20 \times DE = 150$$

$$\rightarrow DE = 15 \text{ cm}$$

By Pythagoras' Theorem,

$$AD^2 = AE^2 + DE^2$$

$$AD^2 = 20^2 + 15^2$$

$$AD = 25$$

Let F be the foot of perpendicular from E to AD . Then,

$$\frac{1}{2} \times AD \times EF = 150$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \times 25 \times EF = 150$$

$$\rightarrow EF = 12$$

Let x cm be the perpendicular distance from E to CD .

By Pythagoras' Theorem,

$$x^2 + EF^2 = DE^2$$

$$x^2 + 12^2 = 15^2$$

$$x = 9$$

22. D

Let $\angle RUT = x$ and $\angle URT = \angle SRT = y$. Then,

$$\angle VUR = \angle URT = y \text{ (alt. } \angle \text{s, } RT \parallel VU \text{)}$$

$$\angle VUT + \angle VRT = 180^\circ \text{ (opp. } \angle \text{s, cyclic quad.)}$$

$$\text{i.e. } x + y + y + 33^\circ = 180^\circ$$

$$x + 2y = 147^\circ \dots (1)$$

$$\angle RST + \angle RUT = 180^\circ \text{ (opp. } \angle \text{s, cyclic quad.)}$$

$$\angle RST + x = 180^\circ$$

$$\angle RST = 180^\circ - x$$

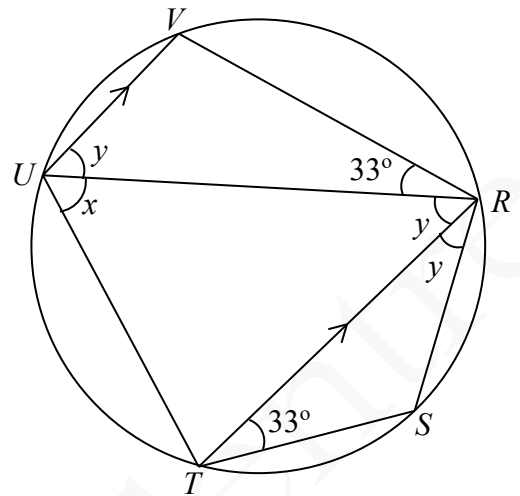
$$\angle RST + \angle SRT + \angle RTS = 180^\circ \text{ (}\angle \text{sum of } \triangle \text{)}$$

$$(180^\circ - x) + y + 33^\circ = 180^\circ$$

$$x - y = 33^\circ \dots (2)$$

Solving (1) and (2),

$$x = 71^\circ \text{ and } y = 38^\circ$$



23. B

Let $\angle ABC = x$ and $\angle ADC = y$. i.e. $x + y = 90^\circ$

$$\angle CAD + \angle ADC + \angle ACD = 180^\circ \text{ (}\angle \text{sum of } \triangle \text{)}$$

$$\angle CAD + y + 90^\circ = 180^\circ$$

$$\angle CAD = 90^\circ - y = x$$

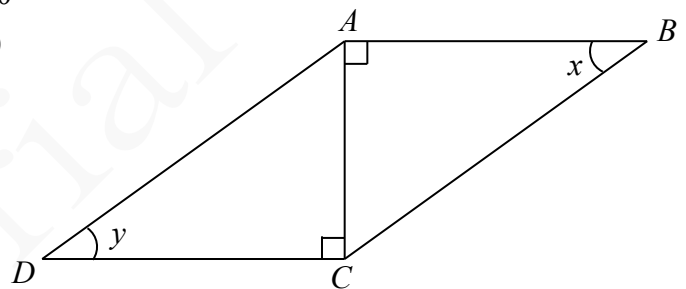
Similarly, $\angle ACB = y$

$$\therefore \triangle ABC \cong \triangle CAD$$

$$\tan \angle ACB$$

$$= \frac{AB}{AC}$$

$$= \frac{AB}{CD}$$



24. C

Note that $\angle XOY = 80^\circ - 20^\circ = 60^\circ$

By cosine formula,

$$\begin{aligned} XY^2 &= OX^2 + OY^2 - 2(OX)(OY)\cos \angle XOY \\ &= 1^2 + 2^2 - 2(1)(2)\cos 60^\circ \end{aligned}$$

$$XY = \sqrt{3}$$

$$\therefore XY = YZ = ZX = \sqrt{3}$$

By sine formula,

$$\frac{\sin \angle OYX}{OX} = \frac{\sin \angle XOY}{XY}$$

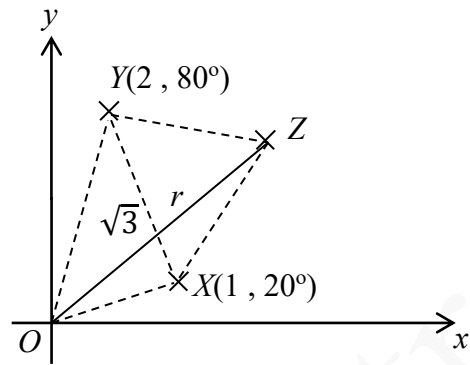
$$\frac{\sin \angle OYX}{1} = \frac{\sin 60^\circ}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$\angle OYX = 30^\circ$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \angle OYZ &= \angle OYX + \angle XYZ \\ &= 30^\circ + 60^\circ \\ &= 90^\circ \end{aligned}$$

By Pythagoras' Theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} r^2 &= OY^2 + YZ^2 \\ &= 2^2 + (\sqrt{3})^2 \\ r &= \sqrt{7} \end{aligned}$$



25. B

Let $P = (x, y)$. Then,

$$\sqrt{(x-a)^2 + (y-2a)^2} = \sqrt{a^2 + (2a)^2}$$

$$\rightarrow (x-a)^2 + (y-2a)^2 = 5a^2$$

$\therefore$ The locus of P is a circle centred at $(a, 2a)$ with a radius $\sqrt{5}a$.

26. B

Rewrite the equations of the straight lines in slope-intercept form.

$$\begin{cases} L_1: y = -\frac{3}{4}x + 5 \text{ with } x\text{-intercept} = \frac{20}{3} \\ L_2: y = -\frac{m}{n}x + \frac{20}{n} \text{ with } x\text{-intercept} = \frac{20}{m} \end{cases}$$

$$\therefore L_1 \perp L_2$$

$$-\frac{3}{4} \times -\frac{m}{n} = -1 \text{ i.e. } n = -\frac{3}{4}m$$

Let D be the y -intercept of L_1 .

From the diagram shown on the right,

$$AD = \sqrt{5^2 + \left(\frac{20}{3}\right)^2} = \frac{25}{3}$$

$$\text{Area of } \triangle ADO = \frac{1}{2} \times 5 \times \frac{20}{3} = \frac{50}{3}$$

Note that $\triangle ABC \sim \triangle ADO$.

$$\therefore \left(\frac{AB}{AD}\right)^2 = \frac{\text{Area of } \triangle ABC}{\text{Area of } \triangle ADO}$$

$$\rightarrow \left(\frac{AB}{\frac{25}{3}}\right)^2 = \frac{6}{\frac{50}{3}}$$

$$AB = 5$$

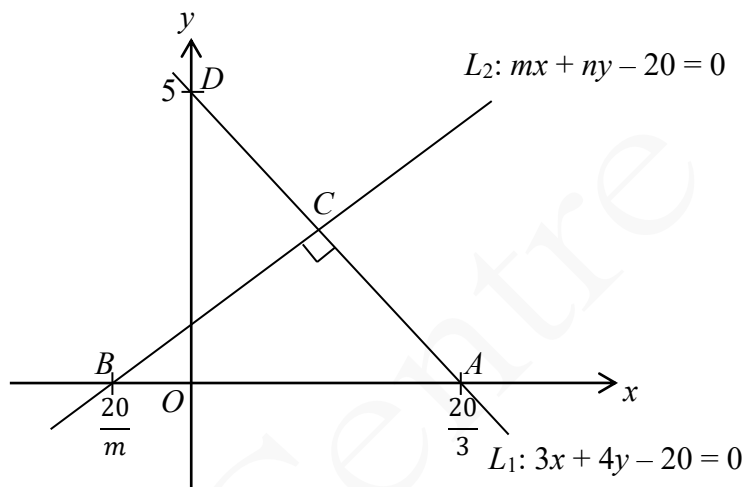
$$\therefore \frac{20}{3} - \frac{20}{m} = 5$$

$$m = 12$$

$$n = -\frac{3}{4}m$$

$$= -\frac{3}{4}(12)$$

$$= -9$$



27. A

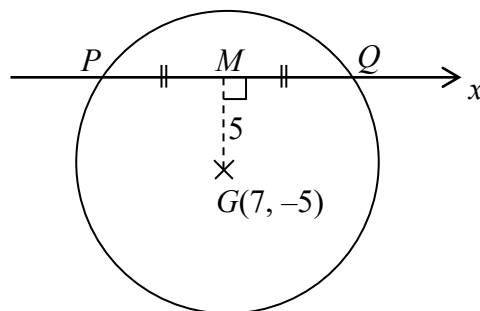
Let M and G be the mid-point of PQ and the centre of the circle respectively. Then,

$$MG = 5 \text{ and } PM = MQ = 12$$

$$\text{Radius, } r = \sqrt{5^2 + 12^2} = 13$$

$$\text{The equation of } C \text{ is } (x - 7)^2 + [y - (-5)]^2 = 13^2$$

$$\text{i.e. } x^2 + y^2 - 14x + 10y - 95 = 0.$$



28. C

The expected number of tokens

$$= P("2") \times 10 + P("3") \times 15 + P("4") \times 25 + P("5") \times 50$$

$$= \frac{3}{6} \times 10 + \frac{1}{6} \times 15 + \frac{1}{6} \times 25 + \frac{1}{6} \times 50$$

$$= 20$$

29. A

From the bar chart, $Q_1 = 4$, $Q_3 = 5$ Inter-quartile range = $Q_3 - Q_1$

$$= 5 - 4$$

$$= 1$$

30. B

$$\frac{\alpha + \beta - 4 - 3 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 4}{8} = 0$$

$$\therefore \alpha + \beta = 0$$

 $\therefore$ III is true.

$$\therefore \alpha \neq \beta$$

$$\therefore \text{Mode} = 1$$

 $\therefore$ I is true.

$$\therefore \alpha = -\beta \text{ and the range is } 10$$

$$\therefore \alpha \text{ and } \beta \text{ must be } 5 \text{ and } -5.$$

Rearrange the data in order: $-5, -4, -3, 1, 1, 1, 4, 5$

$$\therefore \text{Median} = \frac{1+1}{2} = 1$$

 $\therefore$ II is not true.

31. D

$$3E000000000000_{16}$$

$$= 3 \times 16^{13} + 14 \times 16^{12}$$

$$= (2 + 1) \times (2^4)^{13} + (2^3 + 2^2 + 2) \times (2^4)^{12}$$

$$= (2 + 1) \times 2^{52} + (2^3 + 2^2 + 2) \times 2^{48}$$

$$= 2^{53} + 2^{52} + 2^{51} + 2^{50} + 2^{49}$$

32. C

$$p^2 - 4q^2 = (p + 2q)(p - 2q)$$

$$p^3 - 8q^3 = (p - 2q)(p^2 + 2pq + 4q^2)$$

$$(p + 2q)(p^2 - 4q^2) = (p + 2q)(p + 2q)(p - 2q) = (p + 2q)^2(p - 2q)$$

$$\therefore \text{L.C.M.} = (p + 2q)^2(p - 2q)(p^2 + 2pq + 4q^2)$$

$$= (p + 2q)^2(p^3 - 8q^3)$$

33. C

$\therefore$ Intercept on the vertical axis = 12

$$\therefore \begin{cases} \log_{25} x = 0 & \text{i.e. } x = 1 \\ \log_5 y = 12 & \text{i.e. } y = 5^{12} \end{cases}$$

We have $5^{12} = m(1)^n$

$$\rightarrow m = 5^{12}$$

$\therefore$ Intercept on the horizontal axis = 2

$$\therefore \begin{cases} \log_{25} x = 2 & \text{i.e. } x = 25^2 \\ \log_5 y = 0 & \text{i.e. } y = 1 \end{cases}$$

We have $1 = 5^{12}(25^2)^n$
 $= 5^{12}(5^2)^{2n}$

$$\rightarrow 12 + 4n = 0$$

$$\rightarrow n = -3$$

Alternatively

$$\text{Slope of the straight line} = \frac{0-12}{6-0} = -6$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \log_5 y &= -6 \log_{25} x + 12 \\ &= \log_{25} x^{-6} + \log_{25} 25^{12} \\ &= \log_{25} (25^{12} x^{-6}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\log y}{\log 5} = \frac{\log (25^{12} x^{-6})}{\log 25}$$

$$\log y = \frac{\log (25^{12} x^{-6})}{2}$$

$$= \log (25^{12} x^{-6})^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$= \log 25^6 x^{-3}$$

$$\therefore y = 25^6 x^{-3}$$

$$\therefore n = -3$$

34. D

For $a > 1$, the graphs of $y = \log_a x$ and $y = a^x$ do not intersect.

$$\therefore 0 < a < 1$$

$\therefore$ I is true.

Note that $\log_a OQ = 0$

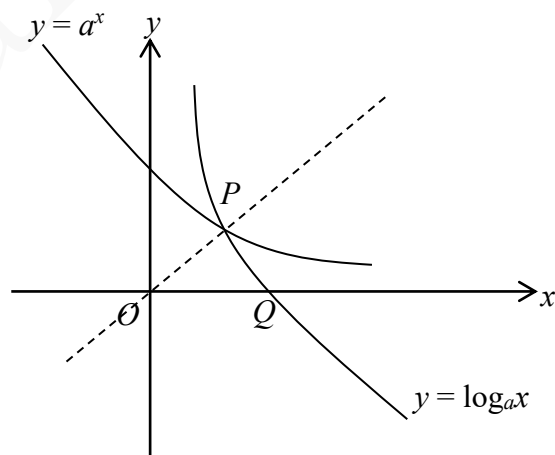
$$OQ = 1 > a$$

$\therefore$ II is true.

The graphs of $y = \log_a x$ and $y = a^x$ are symmetrical about the straight line $y = x$.

$$\therefore \angle POQ = 45^\circ$$

$\therefore$ III is true.



35. A

$$i^9 + i^{10} + i^{11} + \dots + i^{999}$$

$$= \frac{i^9(1-i^{991})}{1-i}$$

$$= \frac{i[1-(-i)]}{1-i}$$

$$= \frac{i(1+i)(1+i)}{(1-i)(1+i)}$$

$$= \frac{i(1+2i+i^2)}{1+1}$$

$$= -1$$

Alternatively

$$i^9 + i^{10} + i^{11} + \dots + i^{999}$$

$$= i^8(i + i^2 + i^3 + \dots + i^{991})$$

$$= (i - 1 - i + 1) + (i - 1 - i + 1) + \dots + (i - 1 - i)$$

$$= -1$$

36. B

$$\begin{cases} x = 11 \dots (1) \\ 4x + 5y - 19 = 0 \dots (2) \\ 7x - 6y + 11 = 0 \dots (3) \end{cases}$$

Solving (1) and (2), the intersection of (1) and (2) is $(11, -5)$.

Similarly, the intersection of (1) and (3) is $(11, \frac{44}{3})$

while that of (2) and (3) is $(1, 3)$.

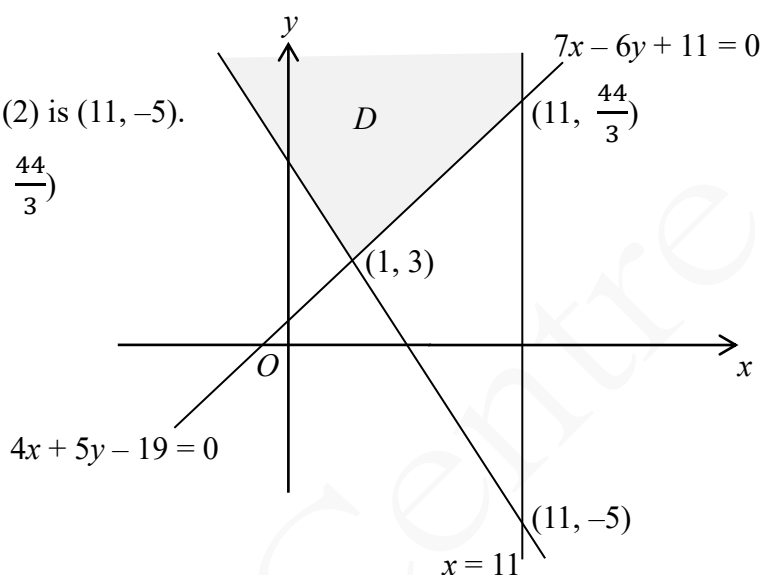
Let $P(x, y) = 8x - 6y + 11$

Only $(11, \frac{44}{3})$ and $(1, 3)$ fall in region D .

$$P(11, \frac{44}{3}) = 8(11) - 6(\frac{44}{3}) + 11 = 11$$

$$P(1, 3) = 8(1) - 6(3) + 11 = 1$$

$\therefore$ The greatest value of $8x - 6y + 11$ is 11 in region D .



37. A

Let d be the common difference of the arithmetic sequence. Then,

$$q = p + d \text{ and } r = p + 2d$$

$$3^q = 3^{p+d} = 3^d \cdot 3^p$$

$$3^r = 3^{p+2d} = (3^d)^2 \cdot 3^p$$

$\therefore 3^p, 3^q$ and 3^r is a geometric sequence with common ratio 3^d .

$\therefore$ I is true.

$$\frac{5}{q} \div \frac{5}{p} = \frac{p}{q} = \frac{p}{p+d}$$

$$\frac{5}{r} \div \frac{5}{q} = \frac{q}{r} = \frac{p+d}{p+2d} \neq \frac{p}{p+d}$$

$\therefore \frac{5}{p}, \frac{5}{q}, \frac{5}{r}$ is NOT a geometric sequence.

$\therefore$ II is NOT true.

$$(q - r) - (p - q) = [(p + d) - (p + 2d)] - [p - (p + d)] = 0$$

$$(r - p) - (q - r) = [(p + 2d) - p] - [(p + d) - (p + 2d)] = 3d$$

$\therefore p - q, q - r, r - p$ is NOT an arithmetic sequence.

$\therefore$ III is NOT true.

38. A

Join AD .

$$\angle ADC = 90^\circ \text{ (}\angle \text{ in semi-circle)}$$

$$\angle DAC = \angle CDT = 41^\circ \text{ (}\angle \text{ in alt. segment)}$$

$$\angle ACD + \angle DAC + \angle ADC = 180^\circ \text{ (}\angle \text{ sum of } \Delta)$$

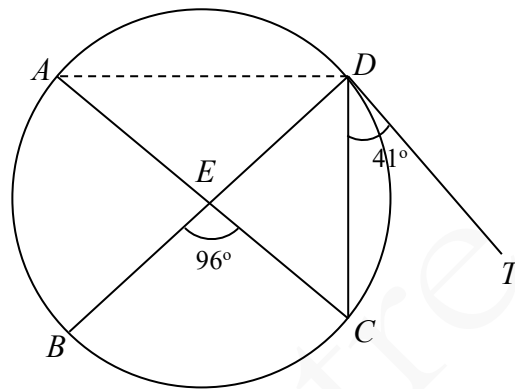
$$\angle ACD + 41^\circ + 90^\circ = 180^\circ$$

$$\angle ACD = 49^\circ$$

$$\angle CDE + \angle ACD = \angle BEC \text{ (ext. } \angle \text{ of } \Delta)$$

$$\angle CDE + 49^\circ = 96^\circ$$

$$\angle CDE = 47^\circ$$



39. B

$$\tan^3 \theta = 2 \tan \theta$$

$$\tan \theta (\tan^2 \theta - 2) = 0$$

$$\tan \theta = 0 \text{ or } \tan^2 \theta = 2$$

$$\tan \theta = 0 \text{ or } \tan \theta = \sqrt{2} \text{ or } \tan \theta = -\sqrt{2}$$

$$\theta = 180^\circ, 125^\circ \text{ or } 235^\circ \text{ for } 90^\circ < \theta < 270^\circ.$$

40. B

Let the length of each side of $PQRS$ be $2x$. Let T be the foot of perpendicular from P to plane QRS . The required angle is $\angle PQT$.

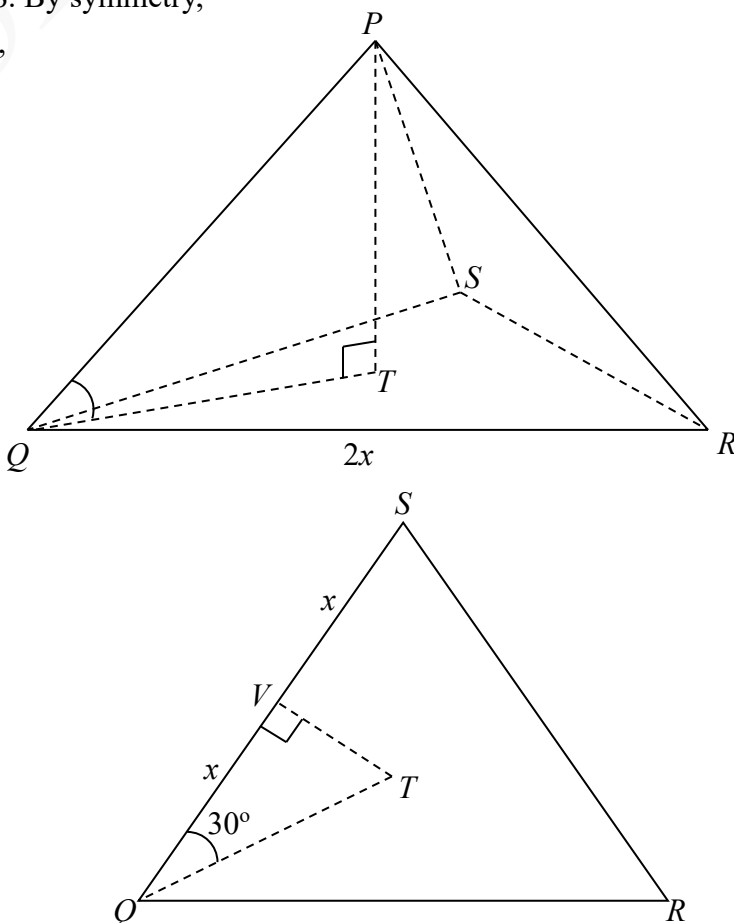
Let V be the foot of perpendicular from T to QS . By symmetry, $QV = VS = x$ and $\angle TQV = \angle TQR = 30^\circ$. Then,

$$\frac{x}{TQ} = \cos 30^\circ$$

$$TQ = \frac{x}{\cos 30^\circ} \text{ i.e. } TQ = \frac{2x}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \angle PQT &= \frac{TT}{PQ} \\ &= \frac{\frac{2x}{\sqrt{3}}}{2x} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\angle PQT = 55^\circ \text{ (correct to the nearest degree)}$$



41. C

Let ABC be the inscribed circle in $\triangle OUV$ where A, B, C are tangent points as shown below.

Note that $VA = VB$ and $UB = UC = 14$.

Let $VA = VB = k$.

By Pythagoras' Theorem,

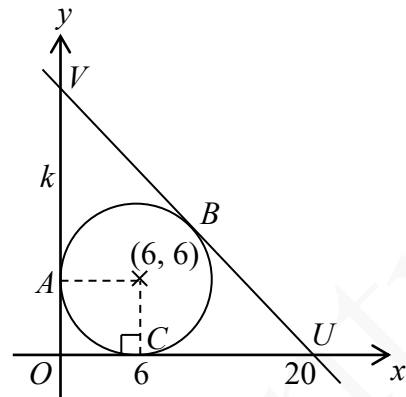
$$(k + 6)^2 + 20^2 = (k + 14)^2$$

$$\rightarrow k = 15$$

$\therefore$ Area of $\triangle OUV$

$$= \frac{(15+6) \times 20}{2}$$

$$= 210$$



42. B

Number of working groups required

= Number of all possible groups – number of groups without managers

$$= {}_7^{18}C_7 - {}_7^{16}C_7$$

$$= 20\,384$$

43. C

The required probability

$$= 1 - P(\text{"4 cans of grape juice"})$$

$$= 1 - \frac{{}_2^9C_2}{{}_6^{13}C_6}$$

$$= \frac{140}{143}$$

44. A

Let b and g be the test scores of the boy and the girl respectively. Let μ be the mean of the test scores.

$$\frac{b-\mu}{2} = -2 \quad \text{i.e.} \quad b = \mu - 4$$

$$\frac{g-\mu}{2} = z \quad \text{i.e.} \quad g = \mu + 2z$$

$$\therefore \mu - 4 - (\mu + 2z) = 6 \text{ or } \mu + 2z - (\mu - 4) = 6$$

$$z = -5 \text{ or } 1$$

45. D

$$m_1 = \frac{a+b+c+d}{4} \quad \text{i.e.} \quad a+b+c+d=4m_1$$

$$m_2 = \frac{2a+2b+2c+2d}{4} = 2m_1$$

$$m_3 = m_1 + 3$$

$$\therefore m_1 + m_3 = m_1 + m_1 + 3 = 2m_1 + 3 > 2m_1 = m_2$$

$\therefore$ I is true.

Without loss of generality, let $d > c > b > a$. Then,

$$r_1 = d - a$$

$$r_2 = 2d - 2a = 2r_1 \text{ and } r_3 = r_1$$

$$\therefore r_1 + r_3 = 2r_1 = r_2$$

$\therefore$ II is true.

Note that $v_1 = v_3$.

$$v_2 = 2^2 v_1 = 4v_1$$

$$v_1 + v_3 = 2v_1 < v_2$$

$\therefore$ III is true.