



Maths
Leaving Certificate
Ordinary Level

Past Exam Questions
Marking Scheme on
Graphing Functions

Q2 2013 Sample paper 1

Question 2

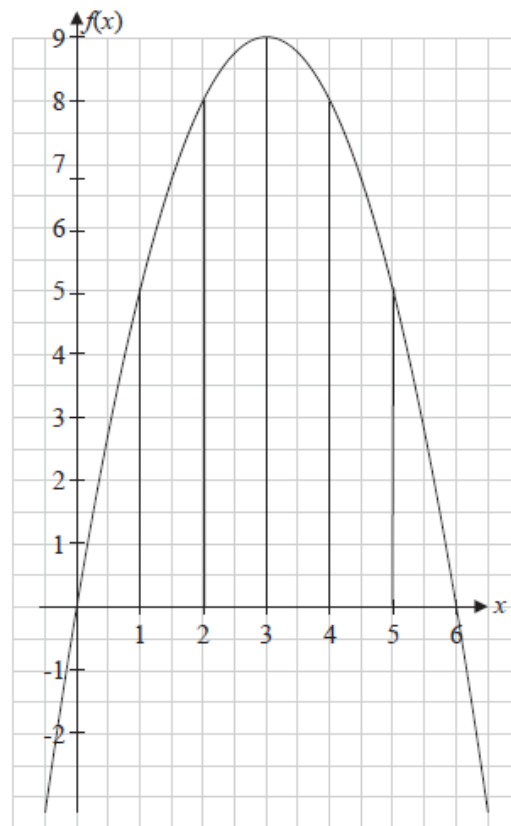
(25 marks)

The diagram shows the graph of the function $f(x) = 6x - x^2$ in the domain $0 \leq x \leq 6$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

- (a) Find $f(0)$, $f(1)$, $f(2)$, $f(3)$, $f(4)$, $f(5)$ and $f(6)$. Hence, complete the table below.

x	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
$f(x)$	0	5	8	9	8	5	0

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x) &= 6x - x^2 \\
 f(0) &= 6(0) - 0^2 = 0 \\
 f(1) &= 6(1) - 1^2 = 5 \\
 f(2) &= 6(2) - 2^2 = 8 \\
 f(3) &= 6(3) - 3^2 = 9 \\
 f(4) &= 6(4) - 4^2 = 8 \\
 f(5) &= 6(5) - 5^2 = 5 \\
 f(6) &= 6(6) - 6^2 = 0
 \end{aligned}$$



- (b) Use the trapezoidal rule to estimate the area of the region enclosed between the curve and the x -axis in the given domain.

$$\begin{aligned}
 A &\approx \frac{h}{2} [y_1 + y_n + 2(y_2 + y_3 + y_4 + \dots + y_{n-1})] \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} [0 + 0 + 2(5 + 8 + 9 + 8 + 5)] \\
 &= 35
 \end{aligned}$$

Q5 2012 Paper 1

Question 5

(25 marks)

The diagram shows the graph of a function f .

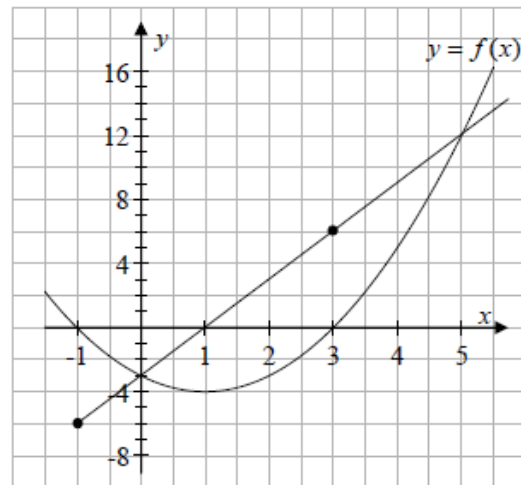
- (a) The graph of another function g is a straight line.

$$g(-1) = -6 \text{ and } g(3) = 6.$$

Draw the graph of g on the diagram.

- (b) Use the graphs to find the two values of x for which $g(x) = f(x)$.

$$x = 0 \text{ or } x = 5$$



- (c) The functions g and f are defined for $x \in \mathbb{R}$ by:

$$g: x \mapsto ax + b$$

$$f: x \mapsto x^2 + px + q$$

where a , b , p , and q are constants.

The graph of f crosses the x -axis at -1 and 3 , as shown.

By finding the values of a , b , p , and q , use algebra to solve $g(x) = f(x)$.

$$g(x) = ax + b$$

$$g(-1): -a + b = -6$$

$$g(3): 3a + b = 6$$

$$\Rightarrow -4a = -12 \Rightarrow a = 3 \quad \therefore -3 + b = -6$$

$$b = -3$$

$$\Rightarrow g(x) = 3x - 3$$

$$f: x = -1, x = 3 \Rightarrow f(x) = (x+1)(x-3) = x^2 - 2x - 3$$

OR

$$f(x) = x^2 + px + q$$

$$f(-1): 1 - p + q = 0$$

$$f(3): 9 + 3p + q = 0 \quad \Rightarrow -4p = 8 \Rightarrow p = -2 \quad \therefore q = -3$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) = x^2 - 2x - 3$$

$$g(x) = f(x) \Rightarrow 3x - 3 = x^2 - 2x - 3 \Rightarrow x^2 - 5x = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x(x - 5) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0 \text{ or } x = 5$$

Q6 2012 Paper 1

Question 6

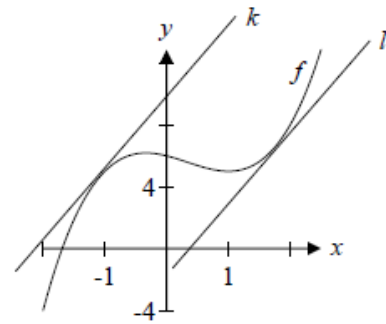
(25 marks)

The diagram shows the graph of the cubic function f , defined for $x \in \mathbb{R}$ as

$$f : x \mapsto x^3 - x^2 - x + 6.$$

- (a) Find the co-ordinates of the point at which f cuts the y -axis.

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= x^3 - x^2 - x + 6 \\ f(0) &= 0 - 0 - 0 + 6 = 6 \Rightarrow (0, 6) \end{aligned}$$



- (b) f has a minimum turning point at $(1, 5)$. Find the co-ordinates of the maximum turning point.

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= x^3 - x^2 - x + 6 \\ f'(x) &= 3x^2 - 2x - 1 = 0 \\ \Rightarrow (3x+1)(x-1) &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow x &= -\frac{1}{3} \text{ or } x = 1 \\ f(-\frac{1}{3}) &= (-\frac{1}{3})^3 - (-\frac{1}{3})^2 - (-\frac{1}{3}) + 6 \\ &= -\frac{1}{27} - \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{3} + 6 = 6\frac{5}{27} \\ \text{Maximum turning point} & \left(-\frac{1}{3}, 6\frac{5}{27}\right). \end{aligned}$$

- (c) The lines k and l are tangents to the curve $y = f(x)$ and l is parallel to k . The equation of k is $4x - y + 9 = 0$. Find the x co-ordinate of the point at which l is a tangent to the curve.

$$\begin{aligned} k : 4x - y + 9 = 0 & \Rightarrow y = 4x + 9 \\ \text{Therefore, the slope of } l &= 4. \\ f'(x) = 3x^2 - 2x - 1 &= 4 \\ \Rightarrow 3x^2 - 2x - 5 &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow (3x-5)(x+1) &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow x = \frac{5}{3} \text{ or } x = -1 \\ x &= \frac{5}{3} \end{aligned}$$