

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE  
Mathematics: analysis and approaches

**MAA**

**EXERCISES [MAA 5.2]**  
**DERIVATIVES – BASIC RULES**  
Compiled by Christos Nikolaidis

**O. Practice questions**

1. [Maximum mark: 20] **[without GDC]**

Differentiate the following functions:

$f(x)$	$f'(x)$
$f(x) = 2x^5$	
$f(x) = \frac{2}{x^5}$	
$f(x) = x^3 + \ln x$	
$f(x) = 2 \sin x + 3 \cos x + 5e^x$	
$f(x) = 5x^3 + 2x^2 + 3x + 7$	
$f(x) = \frac{5}{x^3} + \frac{2}{x^2} + \frac{3}{x} + 7$	
$f(x) = \sqrt{x} - x + 1$	
$f(x) = 6\sqrt[3]{x^5}$	
$f(x) = mx + c$	
$f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$	

2. [Maximum mark: 24] **[without GDC]**

Differentiate the following functions **without using the product or the quotient rules**:

$f(x)$	Simplify $f(x)$	$f'(x)$
$f(x) = x^2(2x+3)$	$= 2x^3 + 3x^2$	
$f(x) = (3x+2)(2x+3)$		
$f(x) = 2x^3 + \frac{5}{x^3} + 1$		
$f(x) = 1 + \frac{2}{x} + \frac{3}{x^2}$		
$f(x) = x^2(1 + \frac{2}{x} + \frac{3}{x^2})$		
$f(x) = \frac{1+x+x^2}{x^2}$		
$f(x) = \frac{3x^5}{2} + \frac{2}{3x^4}$		
$f(x) = \frac{2x^5 + 5x^2 + 1}{x^2}$		
$f(x) = \frac{2x^5 + 5x^2 + 1}{3x^2}$		
$f(x) = 3x(\sqrt{x} + 1)$		
$f(x) = \sqrt{x}(2x + 3\sqrt{x})$		
$f(x) = \frac{2x + 3\sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x}}$		

3. [Maximum mark: 28] **[without GDC]**

Differentiate the following functions:

$y = f(x)$	$\frac{dy}{dx}$
$y = e^x \sin x$	
$y = e^x \cos x$	
$y = x^3 e^x$	
$y = x^2 \ln x$	
$y = \sqrt{x} \sin x$	
$y = (2x + 3) \cos x$	
$y = \frac{e^x}{\sin x}$	
$y = \frac{\sin x}{e^x}$	
$y = \frac{e^x + 1}{\cos x}$	
$y = \frac{2x - 1}{3x + 5}$	
$y = \frac{2x + 3}{\cos x}$	
$y = \frac{\cos x}{2x + 3}$	
$y = \frac{7x^3}{5} + \frac{7}{5x^3} + \frac{4x}{3} - \frac{4}{3x}$	
$y = x^2 + \ln x + x^2 \ln x$	

4. [Maximum mark: 6] **[with / without GDC]**

Let  $f(x) = 2x^3 + \ln x$

(a) Find (i)  $f'(x)$  (ii)  $f''(x)$ . [4]

(b) Find (i)  $f'(1)$  (ii)  $f''(1)$ . [2]

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5. [Maximum mark: 6] **[with GDC]**

Let  $f(x) = \frac{x^2}{\sin x}$

(a) Find  $f'(x)$ . [3]

(b) Find the gradient of the curve  $y = f(x)$ .

(i) at  $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$  (ii) at  $x = 1$  rad. [3]

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6. [Maximum mark: 12] **[without GDC]**

Given the following values at  $x = 1$

$x$	$f(x)$	$g(x)$	$f'(x)$	$g'(x)$
1	2	3	4	5

Calculate the derivatives of the following functions at  $x = 1$

(i)  $y = 2f(x) + 3g(x)$

(ii)  $y = f(x)g(x)$

(iii)  $y = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$

(iv)  $y = 2x^3 + 1 + 5f(x)$

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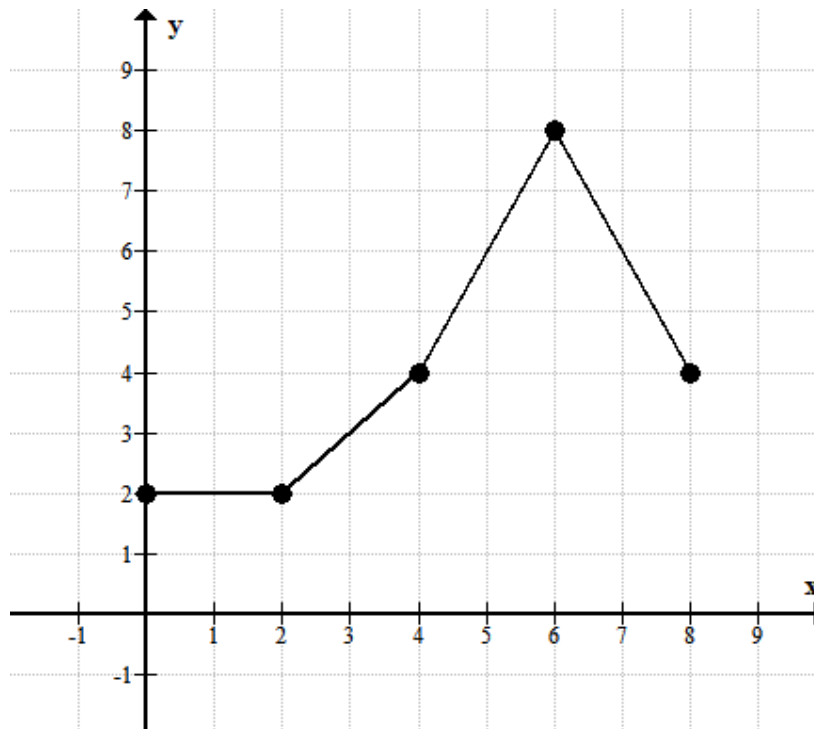
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7. [Maximum mark: 10] **[without GDC]**

The diagram shows the graph of a function  $y = f(x)$ , for  $0 \leq x \leq 8$ .



(a) Complete the table below.

$x$	1	3	5	7
$f(x)$				

[2]

(b) Complete the table below.

$x$	1	3	5	7
$f'(x)$				

[4]

(c) Complete the table below.

$x$	1.7	4.1	5.8	6.5
$f'(x)$				

[2]

(d) Solve the equation  $f(x) = 6$ .

[2]

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8. [Maximum mark: 5] **[without GDC]**

Let  $f(x) = 5x^2 - 3x$ . Find the coordinates of the point where the gradient is 7.

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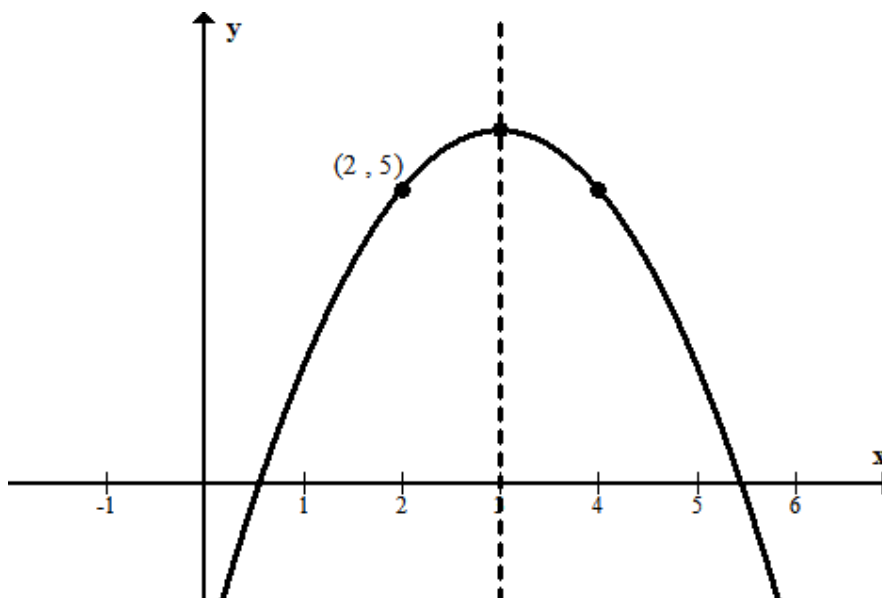
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9. [Maximum mark: 4] **[without GDC]**

The graph of the quadratic function below has a vertex at  $x = 3$ .



- (a) Write down the value of  $f'(3)$ . [1]
- (b) Given that  $f(2) = 5$ , write down the value of  $f(4)$ . [1]
- (c) Given that  $f'(2) = 2$ , write down the value of  $f'(4)$ . [2]

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**A. Exam style questions (SHORT)**

10. [Maximum mark: 4] **[without GDC]**

Let  $f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 - 1$ .

(a) Find  $f'(x)$  [2]

(b) Find the gradient of the curve of  $f(x)$  at the point  $(2, -1)$ . [2]

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11. [Maximum mark: 4] **[without GDC]**

Let  $f(x) = 6\sqrt[3]{x^2}$ . Find  $f'(x)$ .

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12. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

Let  $h(x) = \frac{6x}{\cos x}$ . Find  $h'(0)$

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13. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

Let  $g(x) = 2x \sin x$ .

(a) Find  $g'(x)$ . [3]

(b) Find the gradient of the graph of  $g$  at  $x = \pi$ . [3]

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14. [Maximum mark: 5] **[without GDC]**

Let  $f(x) = \frac{3x^2}{5x-1}$ .

(a) Write down the **equation** of the vertical asymptote of  $y = f(x)$ . [1]

(b) Find  $f'(x)$ . Give your answer in the form  $\frac{ax^2 + bx}{(5x-1)^2}$  where  $a$  and  $b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . [4]

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15. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

Given the function  $f(x) = x^2 - 3bx + (c + 2)$ , determine the values of  $b$  and  $c$  such that  $f(1) = 0$  and  $f'(3) = 0$ .

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16. [Maximum mark: 7] **[without GDC]**

Consider the function  $f(x) = x \ln x - x$ .

- (a) Find  $f'(x)$ . [3]
- (b) Find the coordinates of the point where the gradient of the curve is 1. [4]

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17. [Maximum mark: 5] **[without GDC]**

Consider the curve of the function  $f(x) = 2e^x - 4x + 1$ .

Find the  $x$ -coordinate of the point where the gradient of the curve is 0.

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18. [Maximum mark: 8] **[without GDC]**

Let  $f(x) = \tan x$ .

(a) Show that  $f'(x) = \frac{1}{\cos^2 x}$ . [3]

(b) Show that the gradients of the curve of  $f(x)$  at  $x = 0$ ,  $x = \frac{\pi}{4}$  and  $x = \frac{\pi}{3}$  are in geometric sequence. [5]

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19. [Maximum mark: 5] **[without GDC]**

Consider the function  $f(x) = kx^3 - 30x + 1$ , where  $k$  is a constant.

The gradient of the curve of  $f(x)$  at  $x = 2$  is 6. Find the value of  $k$ .

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20. [Maximum mark: 4] **[without GDC]**

Consider the function  $f(x) = k \sin x + 3x$ , where  $k$  is a constant.

(a) Find  $f'(x)$ .

(b) When  $x = \frac{\pi}{3}$ , the gradient of the curve of  $f(x)$  is 8. Find the value of  $k$ .

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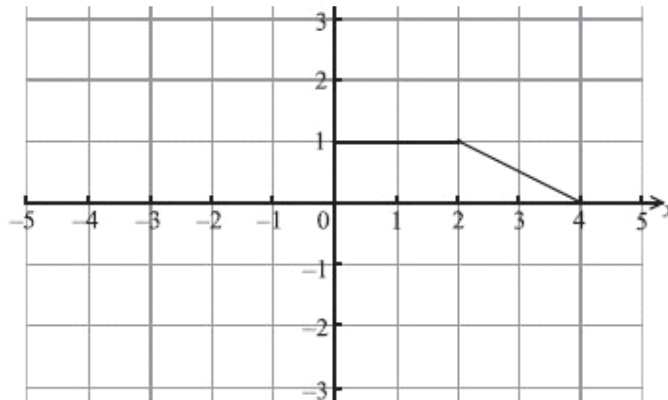
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21. [Maximum mark: 4] **[without GDC]**

The graph of the function  $y = f(x)$ ,  $0 \leq x \leq 4$ , is shown below.

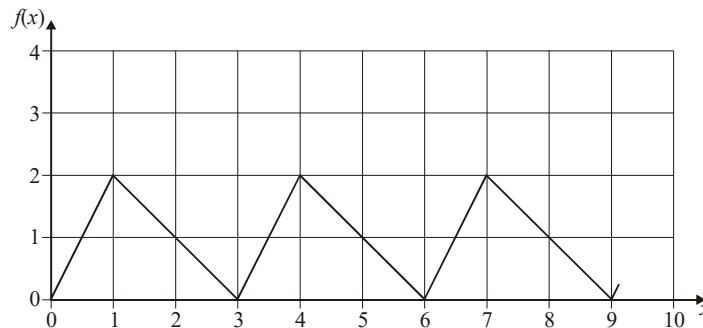


- (a) Write down the value of (i)  $f(1)$       (ii)  $f(3)$   
 (b) Write down the value of (i)  $f'(1)$       (ii)  $f'(3)$

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22. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

Part of the graph of the periodic function  $f$  is shown below. The domain of  $f$  is  $0 \leq x \leq 15$  and the period is 3.



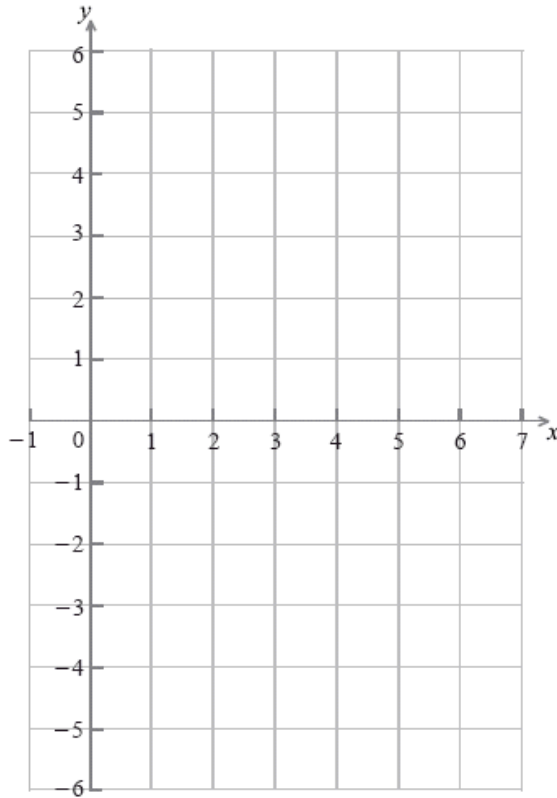
- (a) Find (i)  $f(2)$       (ii)  $f'(6.5)$       (iii)  $f'(14)$   
 (b) How many solutions are there to the equation  $f(x) = 1$  over the given domain?

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23. [Maximum mark: 8] **[with GDC]**

Let  $f(x) = x \cos x$ , for  $0 \leq x \leq 6$ .

- (a) Find  $f'(x)$ . [3]
- (b) On the grid below, sketch the graph of  $y = f'(x)$ . [3]
- (c) Write down the range of the function  $y = f'(x)$ , for  $0 \leq x \leq 6$  [2]



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24. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

Let  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ . Given that  $f(0) = 2$ ,  $f'(0) = -3$ ,  $f''(0) = 6$ , find the values of  $a, b$  and  $c$

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25\*. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

Let  $f$  be a cubic polynomial function. Given that  $f(0) = 2$ ,  $f'(0) = -3$ ,  $f(1) = f'(1)$  and  $f''(-1) = 6$ , find  $f(x)$ .

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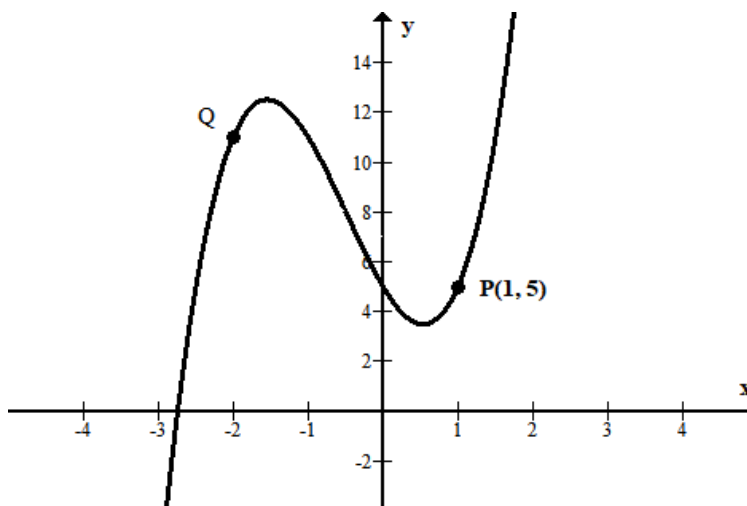
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**B. Exam style questions (LONG)**

26. [Maximum mark: 18] *[without GDC]*

The following diagram shows part of the graph of the function  $f(x) = 2x^3 + ax^2 - 5x + b$  and two points P(1,5) and Q which lie on this curve.



(a) Show that  $a + b = 8$ . [2]

The gradient of the curve at point P is 7.

(b) Find an expression for  $f'(x)$ . [2]

(c) **Hence** show that  $a = 3$  and find the value of  $b$ . [3]

(d) Find the gradient of the curve at  $x = 0$ . [1]

The gradient of the curve at point Q is equal to the gradient at point P.

(e) Find the coordinates of Q. [6]

(f) Find the equation of the line (PQ) in the form  $y = mx + c$ . [4]

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**27\*.** [Maximum mark: 16] **[without GDC]**

The  $n$ -th derivative of a function  $f$  is denoted by  $f^{(n)}(x)$

(a) Let  $f(x) = x^4$ . Find the first four derivatives of  $f$  [i.e. up to  $f^{(4)}(x)$ ]. [4]

(b) Let  $g(x) = x^4 + ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$ . Write down the value of  $g^{(4)}(x)$ . [2]

(c) Let  $h(x) = x^m$ . Find the value of  $g^{(m)}(x)$  in terms of  $m$ . [2]

(d) Let  $k(x) = \frac{1}{x}$

(i) Show that  $k^{(4)}(x) = \frac{24}{x^5}$ . [5]

(ii) Guess a formula for  $k^{(n)}(x)$ , the  $n$ -th derivative of  $k(x)$ . [3]

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