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books used

External assessment 2025

Question and response book

# Specialist Mathematics

## Paper 1 — Technology-free

### Time allowed

- Perusal time — 5 minutes
- Working time — 90 minutes

### General instructions

- Answer all questions in this question and response book.
- Calculators are **not** permitted.
- QCAA formula book provided.
- Planning paper will not be marked.

### Section 1 (10 marks)

- 10 multiple choice questions

### Section 2 (50 marks)

- 9 short response questions

Queensland  
Government**QCAA**Queensland Curriculum  
& Assessment Authority



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# Section 1

## Instructions

- This section has 10 questions and is worth 10 marks.
- Use a 2B pencil to fill in the A, B, C or D answer bubble completely.
- Choose the best answer for Questions 1–10.
- If you change your mind or make a mistake, use an eraser to remove your response and fill in the new answer bubble completely.

	A	B	C	D
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	A	B	C	D
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Ensure you have filled an answer bubble for each question.

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## Section 2

### Instructions

- Write using black or blue pen.
  - Questions worth more than one mark require mathematical reasoning and/or working to be shown to support answers.
  - If you need more space for a response, use the additional pages at the back of this book.
    - On the additional pages, write the question number you are responding to.
    - Cancel any incorrect response by ruling a single diagonal line through your work.
    - Write the page number of your alternative/additional response, i.e. See page ...
    - If you do not do this, your original response will be marked.
  - This section has nine questions and is worth 50 marks.
- 

### QUESTION 11 (5 marks)

Consider the system of linear equations represented using the augmented matrix shown.

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & -1 & -6 \\ -2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 4 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} R_1 \\ R_2 \\ R_3 \end{array}$$

**Key:**  $R_1$  represents the row 1 values.

- a) Modify the augmented matrix using the row operation shown.

[1 mark]

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & -1 & -6 \\ \boxed{\phantom{00}} & \boxed{\phantom{00}} & \boxed{\phantom{00}} & \boxed{\phantom{00}} \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 4 \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{l} R_1 \\ R_2' = R_2 + 2R_1 \\ R_3 \end{array}$$

**Key:**  $R_2' = R_2 + 2R_1$  indicates that the new row 2 values are equal to the sum of the existing row 2 and twice row 1 values.

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[3 marks]

The system of linear equations is geometrically represented by three planes.

[1 mark]

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**QUESTION 12 (6 marks)**

A line,  $l$ , is given by the equation  $\frac{x+1}{-2} = \frac{y-3}{2} = z-2$ .

- a) Given the point  $(-1, 3, a)$  lies on the line, determine the value of  $a$ .

[1 mark]

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- b) Determine a vector,  $d$ , in the direction of the line.

[1 mark]

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A plane,  $\varphi$ , is given by the equation  $x - y + 4z = 8$ .

- c) Given the point  $(b, b, -2b)$  lies on the plane, determine the value of  $b$ .

[1 mark]

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- d) Determine a vector,  $n$ , that is normal to the plane.

[1 mark]

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e) Show that  $\mathbf{d} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$ .

[1 mark]

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Consider the statement: *The line,  $l$ , is perpendicular to the plane,  $\phi$ .*

f) Use your result from Question 12e) to comment on the reasonableness of the statement. [1 mark]

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### QUESTION 13 (5 marks)

The velocity ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ ) of a 3 kg object moving in a straight line is given by

$$v = 2 \cos^{-1} \left( \frac{x}{3} \right), \quad 0 \leq x < 3$$

where  $x$  is its position (m) from the origin.

- a) Determine the momentum ( $\text{kg m s}^{-1}$ ) of the object when it is at the origin.

[2 marks]

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- b) Determine the acceleration ( $\text{m s}^{-2}$ ) of the object when it is at the origin.

[3 marks]

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### QUESTION 14 (5 marks)

A factory produces cans of juice. Each can has a labelled volume of 500 mL.

The factory manager conducted a random sample of 100 cans to assess whether the labelled volume was being met satisfactorily in production.

The mean volume of the sample was 498.9 mL with a sample standard deviation of 4.0 mL.

- a) Based on this sample and using a  $z$ -value of 2, determine an approximate confidence interval for the population mean volume.

[3 marks]

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Industry regulation requires that the mean volume must meet or exceed the labelled volume.

- b) Use your result from Question 14a) to state whether the current production meets the regulation. Justify your decision using mathematical reasoning.

[2 marks]

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**QUESTION 15 (5 marks)**

a) Use integration by parts to show

$$\int x^2 e^{-x} dx = -e^{-x} (x^2 + 2x + 2) + c$$

[3 marks]

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The area of the bounded region between the graphs of  $y = x^2 e^{-x}$  and  $y = x^2 e^{-1}$  over the domain  $[0, 1]$  is given by

$$\int_0^1 x^2 (e^{-x} - e^{-1}) dx$$

b) Use your result from Question 15a) to determine this area. Simplify your answer. [2 marks]

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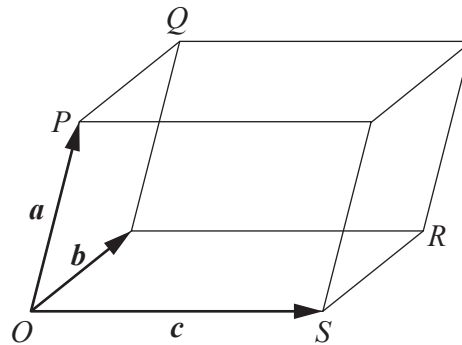
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### QUESTION 16 (5 marks)

A parallelepiped is a three-dimensional figure where all six faces are parallelograms. It can be defined by vectors  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$ , as shown. The origin  $O$  and points  $P$ ,  $Q$ ,  $R$  and  $S$  are vertices of the parallelepiped.



Use vectors  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$  to prove that the diagonal from  $P$  to  $R$  and the diagonal from  $Q$  to  $S$  bisect each other.

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**QUESTION 17 (7 marks)**

The radius of a cylinder decreases at a constant rate of  $0.5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ , while maintaining a constant height of four metres.

Given that the cylinder has an initial volume of  $100\pi \text{ m}^3$ , determine the rate of change of the volume ( $\text{m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) of the cylinder after four seconds.

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### QUESTION 18 (6 marks)

An object is projected at an acute angle of  $\theta$  below the horizontal, with an initial speed of  $30 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  from a position 90 m above ground level.

The object hits the ground 90 m horizontally from its projection point.

Use vector calculus to determine  $\theta$  in its simplest form.

Assume that the magnitude of mean acceleration due to gravity on Earth is  $10 \text{ m s}^{-2}$  and that there is no air resistance.

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**QUESTION 19 (6 marks)**

Let  $w \in C$  be any fifth root of unity, where  $w \notin R$

Show that  $w^3(1+w)(1+w^3) \in Z^-$

[illegible]

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