



Clavis TMUA Set A Paper 2

Recommended time: 75 minutes

Calculators: not permitted

Format: 20 multiple-choice questions

This community paper is presented in a clean, print-ready format. The wording, mathematics, answer choices, and diagrams are preserved from the source paper.

Paper guidance

- Attempt every question. Select the best answer from the choices given.
- If a diagram is shown, it is reproduced from the source material and may not be drawn to scale.
- This question paper does not include worked solutions or a marked answer key.

Best of luck, and enjoy the challenge!

Source credit: Clavis

Question 1

The function f is defined for $x > 0$ by

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 + 6\sqrt{x}}{x}$$

Find the value of $f'(9)$.

A $\frac{1}{9}$

B $\frac{8}{9}$

C $\frac{26}{27}$

D 1

E $\frac{28}{27}$

F $\frac{10}{9}$

Question 2

Find the coefficient of x^3 in the expansion of

$$(1 - 2x)^5(1 + x)^2$$

A -80

B -30

C -10

D 10

E 30

F 80

Question 3

Consider the following claim:

For all real numbers a and b , if $a^2 > b^2$ then $a > b$.

Which of the following is/are a counterexample to the claim?

I $a = 3, b = -4$

II $a = -3, b = 2$

III $a = -5, b = -2$

A none of them

B I only

C II only

D III only

E I and II only

F I and III only

G II and III only

H I, II and III

Question 4

The sequence $u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots$ is defined by $u_n = n^2 + kn$, where k is a real constant.

Consider the two statements:

P : $k > -2$

Q : the sequence is strictly increasing, that is $u_{n+1} > u_n$ for every $n \geq 1$

Which one of the following is true?

- A** P is necessary and sufficient for Q .
- B** P is necessary but not sufficient for Q .
- C** P is sufficient but not necessary for Q .
- D** P is not necessary and not sufficient for Q .

Question 5

Let n be a positive integer, and let P be the statement
if n is a multiple of 4, then n is even.

Which of the following must be true?

I P

II the converse of P

III the contrapositive of P

A none of them

B I only

C II only

D III only

E I and II only

F I and III only

G II and III only

H I, II and III

Question 6

Consider the following statement (*) about a real constant k :

(*) There exists a real number x such that, for all real numbers y ,

$$x^2 + y^2 \geq kxy$$

What is the complete set of values of k for which (*) is true?

A $-2 \leq k \leq 2$

B $-1 \leq k \leq 1$

C $k \geq 0$

D $k = 0$ only

E all real values of k

F there are no such values of k

Question 7

Here is an attempted proof of the following claim.

For all real numbers x , if $x^3 > x$ then $x > 1$.

(I) Suppose $x^3 > x$.

(II) Dividing both sides by x gives $x^2 > 1$.

(III) Therefore $x^2 - 1 > 0$, so $(x - 1)(x + 1) > 0$.

(IV) Hence $x > 1$ or $x < -1$.

(V) Therefore $x > 1$.

Which of the following is the case?

- A** The proof is correct.
- B** The proof is incorrect, and the first error occurs in line (I).
- C** The proof is incorrect, and the first error occurs in line (II).
- D** The proof is incorrect, and the first error occurs in line (III).
- E** The proof is incorrect, and the first error occurs in line (IV).
- F** The proof is incorrect, and the first error occurs in line (V).

Question 8

In this question a and b are real numbers with $a < b$, and

$$f(x) = (x - a)^2(x - b)$$

Which of the following statements must be true?

I f has exactly two stationary points.

II $f(x) < 0$ for all $x < a$.

III $f(x) \geq 0$ for all $x > a$.

A none of them

B I only

C II only

D III only

E I and II only

F I and III only

G II and III only

H I, II and III

Question 9

A positive integer is called *balanced* if and only if it can be written as the sum of two or more consecutive positive integers. For example, 9 is balanced since $9 = 4 + 5$, and 15 is balanced since $15 = 7 + 8$.

A (true) theorem states that:

A positive integer is balanced if and only if it is not a power of 2.

So 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, ... are precisely the positive integers that are not balanced.

Which one of the following statements is not true?

- A** Every odd number greater than 1 is balanced.
- B** If N is balanced, then $2N$ is balanced.
- C** If N and M are balanced, then NM is balanced.
- D** If N is not balanced, then $N + 1$ is balanced.

Question 10

The curve C has equation $y = ax^2 + bx + c$, where a , b and c are real constants with $a \neq 0$.

Let d be the x -coordinate of the vertex of C .

Which one of the following is sufficient on its own to determine the value of d ?

- A** the values of a and c
- B** the values of b and c
- C** the values of a and b
- D** the value of the discriminant $b^2 - 4ac$
- E** none of the options above is sufficient on its own

Question 11

Which of the following statements is/are true?

- I For every real number x there is a real number y such that $y^2 = x$.
- II There is a real number y such that for every real number x , $xy = 1$.
- III For every real number x there is a real number y such that $x + y = 0$.

- A none of them
- B I only
- C II only
- D III only
- E I and II only
- F I and III only
- G II and III only
- H I, II and III

Question 12

Consider the following statement:

For every positive integer n there is a positive integer m such that $m^2 + n$ is a perfect square.

Which one of the following is the negation of this statement?

- A** For every positive integer n there is a positive integer m such that $m^2 + n$ is not a perfect square.
- B** For every positive integer n and every positive integer m , $m^2 + n$ is not a perfect square.
- C** There is a positive integer n such that there is a positive integer m for which $m^2 + n$ is not a perfect square.
- D** There is a positive integer n such that for every positive integer m , $m^2 + n$ is not a perfect square.
- E** There is a positive integer n such that for every positive integer m , $m^2 + n$ is a perfect square.
- F** There is a positive integer m such that for every positive integer n , $m^2 + n$ is not a perfect square.
- G** For every positive integer m there is a positive integer n such that $m^2 + n$ is not a perfect square.
- H** There are positive integers n and m such that $m^2 + n$ is not a perfect square.

Question 13

Consider the following attempt to solve the equation $2 \sin x \cos x = \cos x$ for $0 \leq x \leq 2\pi$.

(I) Dividing both sides by $\cos x$ gives $2 \sin x = 1$.

(II) So $\sin x = \frac{1}{2}$.

(III) The solutions of $\sin x = \frac{1}{2}$ with $0 \leq x \leq 2\pi$ are $x = \frac{\pi}{6}$ and $x = \frac{5\pi}{6}$.

(IV) Therefore the solutions of the original equation are $x = \frac{\pi}{6}$ and $x = \frac{5\pi}{6}$.

Which one of the following is true?

- A** The working is correct.
- B** The two values found are not solutions of the original equation, and the error arises as a result of step (I).
- C** The two values found are solutions, but there is exactly one further solution, missed as a result of step (I).
- D** The two values found are solutions, but there are exactly two further solutions, missed as a result of step (I).
- E** The two values found are solutions, but there are exactly two further solutions, missed as a result of step (III).
- F** The two values found are solutions, but there are exactly four further solutions, missed as a result of step (I).

Question 14

n is a positive integer.

Consider the statement:

Q : n is a multiple of 6

and the following three conditions:

I n is a multiple of 2 and n is a multiple of 3

II n is a multiple of 12

III n is a multiple of 2 or n is a multiple of 3 (or both)

Which row in the following table is correct?

	Condition I is necessary and sufficient for Q	Condition II is necessary and sufficient for Q	Condition III is necessary and sufficient for Q
A	yes	yes	yes
B	yes	yes	no
C	yes	no	yes
D	yes	no	no
E	no	yes	yes
F	no	yes	no
G	no	no	yes
H	no	no	no

A A

B B

C C

D D

E E

F F

G G

H H

Question 15

In this question f and g are polynomials such that

$$f(x) \leq g(x) \quad \text{for all real } x$$

Which of the following statements must be true?

I $f(g(x)) \leq g(g(x))$ for all real x

II $f'(x) \leq g'(x)$ for all real x

III $\int_0^1 f(x) \, dx \leq \int_0^1 g(x) \, dx$

A none of them

B I only

C II only

D III only

E I and II only

F I and III only

G II and III only

H I, II and III

Question 16

Consider the following statement (*) about a real number x :

(*) There exists a real number y such that $y^2 + xy + x = 0$.

What is the complete set of values of x for which (*) is true?

A $x \leq 0$ or $x \geq 4$

B $0 \leq x \leq 4$

C $x < 0$ or $x > 4$

D $0 < x < 4$

E all real values of x

F there are no such values of x

Question 17

Place the following three numbers in order of size, starting with the smallest.

$$P = 2^{300} \quad Q = 3^{200} \quad R = 5^{150}$$

A $P < Q < R$

B $P < R < Q$

C $Q < P < R$

D $Q < R < P$

E $R < P < Q$

F $R < Q < P$

Question 18

The function f is a polynomial defined for all real x .

Which one of the following is a necessary condition for

$$f(x) \geq f(0) \quad \text{for all real } x$$

- A** $f(x) \geq 0$ for all real x
- B** $f'(0) = 0$
- C** $f'(x) \geq 0$ for all real x
- D** $f''(0) > 0$
- E** $f''(x) \geq 0$ for all real x
- F** f is an even function

Question 19

A function f defined for all real x is called *self-inverse* if and only if

$$f(f(x)) = x \quad \text{for all real } x$$

Which of the following statements is/are true?

- I For every constant c , the function $f(x) = c - x$ is self-inverse.
- II If f and g are self-inverse, then the function $h(x) = f(g(x))$ is self-inverse.
- III Every self-inverse function is of the form $f(x) = c - x$ for some constant c .

- A none of them
- B I only
- C II only
- D III only
- E I and II only
- F I and III only
- G II and III only
- H I, II and III

Question 20

It is given that $f(x) = x^3 + px + q$, where p and q are real constants, and that the equation $f(x) = 0$ has three distinct real roots.

Which of the following statements is/are necessarily true?

- I $p > 0$
 - II The graph of $y = f(x)$ has a local maximum point with a positive y -coordinate.
 - III The equation $f(x) = 0$ has a rational root.
-
- A none of them
 - B I only
 - C II only
 - D III only
 - E I and II only
 - F I and III only
 - G II and III only
 - H I, II and III