

## JCECE Mathematics Sample Paper-9

Duration: 60 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 50

### Instructions

- This paper contains **50** Multiple Choice Questions.
- Each correct answer carries **+1** mark. Incorrect answer: **-0.25** marks. Only **one** correct option.
- Unattempted questions carry **0** marks.
- Use of mobile phones, smartwatches, or any electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited.

**Q1.** The value of  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^{3x} - 1}{\sin 2x}$  is

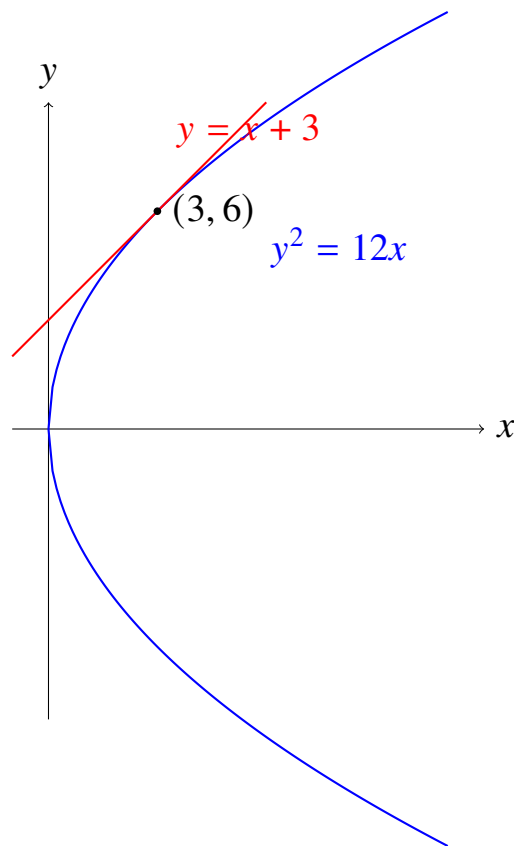
- (A)  $\frac{2}{3}$
- (B) 1
- (C)  $\frac{3}{2}$
- (D) 3

**Q2.** If  $A$  is a nonsingular matrix of order 3 and  $|A| = 4$ , then  $|\text{adj } A|$  is

- (A) 4
- (B) 8
- (C) 16
- (D) 64

**Q3.** The tangent to the parabola  $y^2 = 12x$  at the point  $(3, 6)$  is





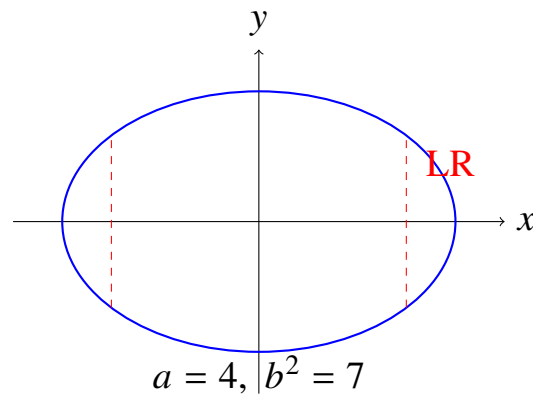
- (A)  $y = x + 3$
- (B)  $y = 2x$
- (C)  $2y = x + 9$
- (D)  $y = x - 3$

**Q4.** The value of  $\int_0^1 \frac{3x^2}{1+x^3} dx$  is

- (A)  $\ln 2$
- (B)  $2 \ln 2$
- (C)  $\frac{1}{2} \ln 2$
- (D) 1

**Q5.** For the ellipse  $\frac{x^2}{16} + \frac{y^2}{7} = 1$ , the length of the latus rectum is





- (A)  $\frac{7}{2}$
- (B)  $\frac{14}{3}$
- (C)  $\frac{8}{7}$
- (D)  $\frac{16}{7}$

**Q6.** Two fair dice are thrown. The probability that the sum appearing on the dice is a prime number is

- (A)  $\frac{1}{3}$
- (B)  $\frac{5}{12}$
- (C)  $\frac{7}{18}$
- (D)  $\frac{1}{2}$

**Q7.** The number of solutions of  $\sin^2 x - \sin x = 0$  in  $[0, 2\pi]$  is

- (A) 2
- (B) 3
- (C) 4
- (D) 5

**Q8.** If  $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1 - \cos kx}{x^2}, & x \neq 0, \\ 8, & x = 0, \end{cases}$  is continuous at  $x = 0$  and  $k > 0$ , then  $k$  is

- (A) 2
- (B) 3



(C) 4

(D) 6

**Q9.** An ellipse has semi-major axis 13 and semi-minor axis 5. Its eccentricity is

(A)  $\frac{5}{13}$

(B)  $\frac{12}{13}$

(C)  $\frac{13}{12}$

(D)  $\frac{8}{13}$

**Q10.** The particular solution of  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2x}{y}$  passing through (1, 2) is

(A)  $y^2 - 2x^2 = 2$

(B)  $y^2 + x^2 = 5$

(C)  $2y^2 - x^2 = 7$

(D)  $y^2 - 2x^2 = 0$

**Q11.** If the sum of the first  $n$  terms of a sequence is  $S_n = 2n^2 - n$ , then its 8th term is

(A) 25

(B) 27

(C) 29

(D) 31

**Q12.** The equation of the line passing through (2, -1) and parallel to  $2x - 3y + 5 = 0$  is

(A)  $2x - 3y - 7 = 0$

(B)  $3x - 2y - 8 = 0$

(C)  $2x + 3y - 1 = 0$

(D)  $3x + 2y - 4 = 0$

**Q13.** The roots of  $x^2 - (k + 2)x + 2k = 0$  are equal when  $k$  equals



- (A) -2
- (B) 0
- (C) 2
- (D) 4

**Q14.** If  $y = \ln(x + \sqrt{1 + x^2})$ , then  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  equals

- (A)  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x^2}}$
- (B)  $\frac{x}{\sqrt{1+x^2}}$
- (C)  $\sqrt{1 + x^2}$
- (D)  $\frac{1}{1+x^2}$

**Q15.** For  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ , the (2, 1) entry of  $A^{-1}$  is

- (A) -1
- (B) 1
- (C) -3
- (D) 2

**Q16.** The mean of six observations is 12. If a seventh observation 18 is added, the new mean is

- (A)  $\frac{84}{7}$
- (B)  $\frac{90}{7}$
- (C) 13
- (D) 14

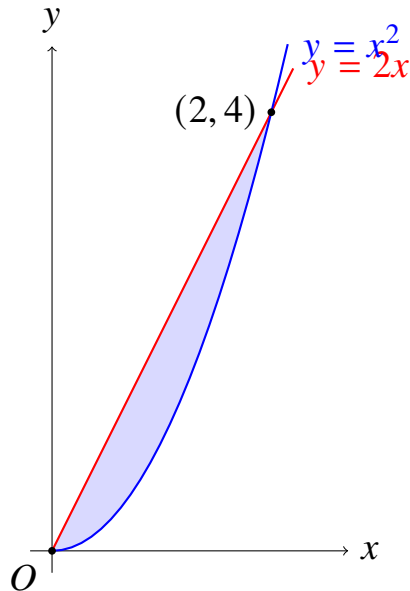
**Q17.** The radius of the circle  $x^2 + y^2 - 6x + 8y - 11 = 0$  is

- (A) 3
- (B) 4



- (C) 5
- (D) 6

**Q18.** The area enclosed by the curves  $y = 2x$  and  $y = x^2$  is



- (A)  $\frac{2}{3}$
- (B) 1
- (C)  $\frac{4}{3}$
- (D) 2

**Q19.** If  $\vec{a} = \hat{i} + 2\hat{j} - 2\hat{k}$  and  $\vec{b} = 2\hat{i} + \hat{j} + 2\hat{k}$ , then the angle between  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  is

- (A) 0
- (B)  $\frac{\pi}{3}$
- (C)  $\frac{\pi}{2}$
- (D)  $\pi$

**Q20.** If  $f(x) = \frac{x}{x+1}$ , then  $f(f(1))$  equals

- (A)  $\frac{1}{3}$
- (B)  $\frac{1}{2}$
- (C)  $\frac{2}{3}$



(D) 1

**Q21.** For  $x > 0$ , the minimum value of  $x + \frac{9}{x}$  is

(A) 3

(B) 6

(C) 9

(D) 12

**Q22.** The coefficient of  $x^2$  in  $(1 - 2x)^5$  is

(A) 20

(B) 30

(C) 40

(D) 80

**Q23.** The eccentricity of the hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{25} - \frac{y^2}{144} = 1$  is

(A)  $\frac{12}{5}$

(B)  $\frac{13}{5}$

(C)  $\frac{5}{13}$

(D)  $\frac{13}{12}$

**Q24.** The matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} k & 1 \\ 4 & k \end{pmatrix}$  is singular for the positive value of  $k$  equal to

(A) 1

(B) 2

(C) 3

(D) 4

**Q25.** A bag contains 3 red balls and 2 blue balls. Two balls are drawn without replacement. The probability that both are red is



- (A)  $\frac{3}{10}$
- (B)  $\frac{2}{5}$
- (C)  $\frac{1}{2}$
- (D)  $\frac{3}{5}$

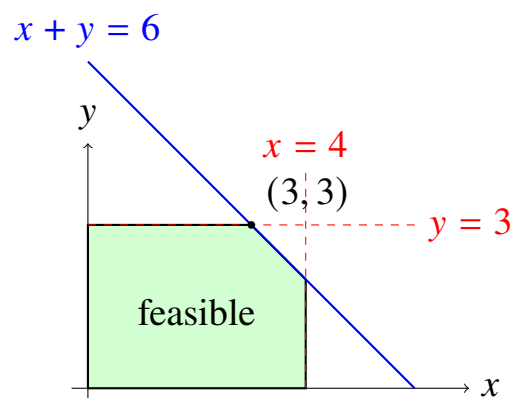
**Q26.** The value of  $\int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{\cos x}{1 + \sin x} dx$  is

- (A)  $\ln 2$
- (B) 1
- (C)  $\frac{1}{2} \ln 2$
- (D) 2

**Q27.** The value of  $(1 + i)^6$  is

- (A)  $8i$
- (B)  $-8i$
- (C) 8
- (D)  $-8$

**Q28.** The maximum value of  $Z = 2x + 5y$  subject to  $x + y \leq 6$ ,  $x \leq 4$ ,  $y \leq 3$ ,  $x \geq 0$ ,  $y \geq 0$  is



- (A) 18
- (B) 20



(C) 21

(D) 24

**Q29.** The function  $f(x) = |x^2 - 4|$  is not differentiable at

(A)  $x = 0$

(B)  $x = -2, 2$

(C)  $x = 2$  only

(D)  $x = -2$  only

**Q30.** The distance of the origin from the plane  $2x - y + 2z = 9$  is

(A) 1

(B) 2

(C) 3

(D) 9

**Q31.** For the ellipse  $\frac{x^2}{49} + \frac{y^2}{24} = 1$ , the distance between its foci is

(A) 5

(B) 8

(C) 10

(D) 14

**Q32.** The solution of  $\frac{dy}{dx} - y = e^{2x}$  satisfying  $y(0) = 1$  is

(A)  $y = e^{2x}$

(B)  $y = e^x$

(C)  $y = e^{2x} + e^x$

(D)  $y = e^{2x} - e^x$

**Q33.** In an A.P., the second term is 7 and the fifth term is 16. The sum of the first 10 terms is

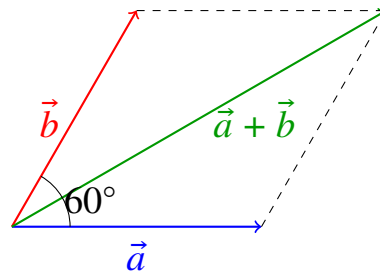


- (A) 165
- (B) 170
- (C) 175
- (D) 180

**Q34.** The number of stationary points of  $f(x) = x^3 - 6x^2 + 9x + 1$  is

- (A) 0
- (B) 1
- (C) 2
- (D) 3

**Q35.** If  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  are unit vectors making an angle  $60^\circ$ , then  $|\vec{a} + \vec{b}|$  is



- (A) 1
- (B)  $\sqrt{2}$
- (C)  $\sqrt{3}$
- (D) 2

**Q36.** If  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ , then  $y$  equals

- (A) 1
- (B) 2
- (C) 3
- (D) 4

**Q37.** The variance of the data 2, 4, 6, 8 is

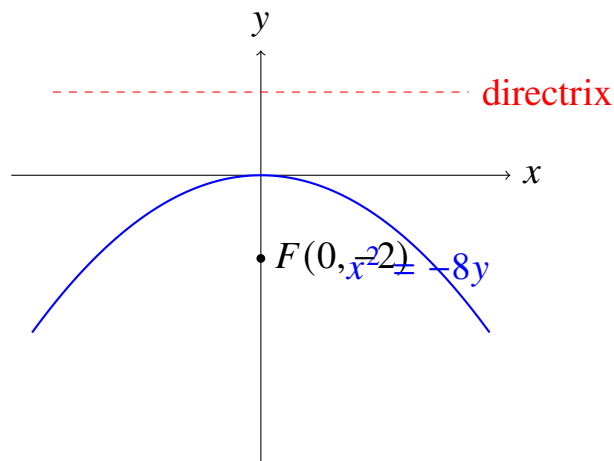


- (A) 4
- (B) 5
- (C) 6
- (D) 8

**Q38.** The maximum value of  $3 + 2 \cos x$  is

- (A) 1
- (B) 3
- (C) 5
- (D) 6

**Q39.** For the parabola  $x^2 = -8y$ , the focus is



- (A) (0, 2)
- (B) (0, -2)
- (C) (2, 0)
- (D) (-2, 0)

**Q40.** The value of  $\int_0^1 \frac{x}{(1+x^2)^2} dx$  is

- (A)  $\frac{1}{4}$
- (B)  $\frac{1}{2}$



(C)  $\frac{3}{4}$

(D) 1

**Q41.** The angle between the lines  $y = \sqrt{3}x$  and  $y = -\frac{x}{\sqrt{3}}$  is

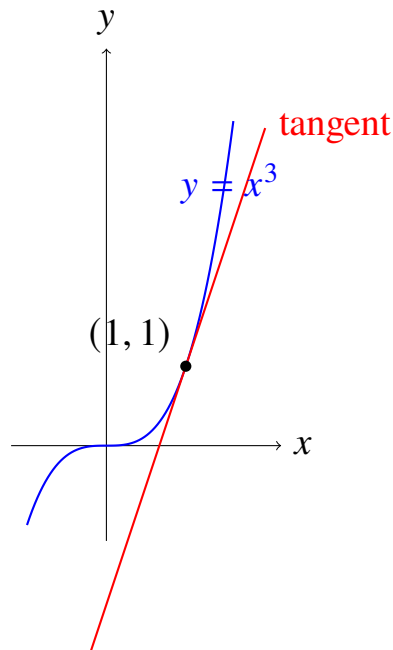
(A)  $30^\circ$

(B)  $45^\circ$

(C)  $60^\circ$

(D)  $90^\circ$

**Q42.** The slope of the tangent to the curve  $y = x^3$  at  $x = 1$  is



(A) 1

(B) 2

(C) 3

(D) 4

**Q43.** If  $\vec{a} = \hat{i} + 2\hat{k}$ ,  $\vec{b} = 2\hat{i} + \hat{j}$ , and  $\vec{c} = \hat{j} + \hat{k}$ , then  $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$  equals

(A) 3

(B) 4



(C) 5

(D) 6

**Q44.** If  $z + \bar{z} = 6$  and  $z\bar{z} = 13$  with  $\text{Im}(z) > 0$ , then  $z$  is

(A)  $3 + i$

(B)  $3 + 2i$

(C)  $2 + 3i$

(D)  $6 + i$

**Q45.** The order and degree of  $\left(\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^3 = 0$  are respectively

(A) 2, 2

(B) 2, 3

(C) 3, 2

(D) 1, 3

**Q46.** The integral  $\int \sec^2(3x) dx$  is

(A)  $\tan 3x + C$

(B)  $\frac{1}{3} \tan 3x + C$

(C)  $3 \tan 3x + C$

(D)  $\sec 3x + C$

**Q47.** If a  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $A$  has eigenvalues 2 and 5, then  $|A^{-1}|$  is

(A) 10

(B)  $\frac{1}{10}$

(C) 7

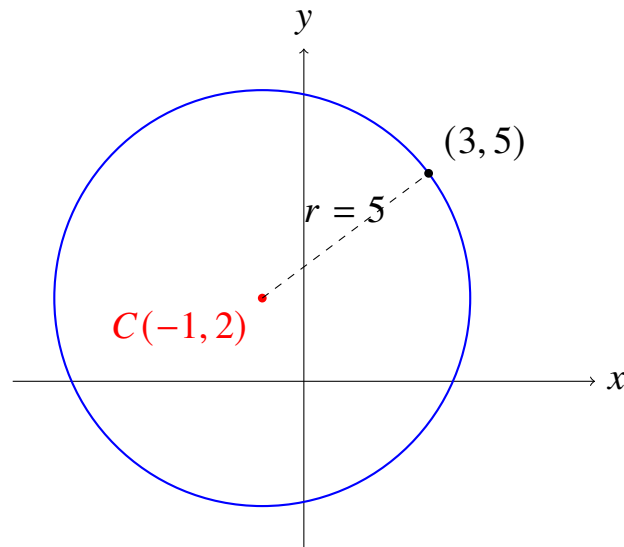
(D)  $\frac{1}{7}$

**Q48.** The value of  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan 5x}{x}$  is



- (A) 1
- (B) 3
- (C) 5
- (D) 10

**Q49.** The circle with centre  $(-1, 2)$  and passing through  $(3, 5)$  has equation



- (A)  $(x + 1)^2 + (y - 2)^2 = 25$
- (B)  $(x - 1)^2 + (y + 2)^2 = 25$
- (C)  $(x + 1)^2 + (y - 2)^2 = 16$
- (D)  $(x - 3)^2 + (y - 5)^2 = 25$

**Q50.** If  $f'(x) = (x - 2)(x + 1)$ , then  $f$  is increasing for

- (A)  $-1 < x < 2$
- (B)  $x < -1$  or  $x > 2$
- (C)  $x > -1$  only
- (D)  $x < 2$  only



## Detailed Solutions

Q1.

## Solution

**Concept:**

For small values of  $x$ ,  $e^{kx} - 1$  behaves like  $kx$  and  $\sin mx$  behaves like  $mx$ . The limit can also be evaluated by converting both numerator and denominator into standard limits.

**Solution:**

- (a) Write the expression as  $\frac{e^{3x}-1}{3x} \cdot \frac{3x}{2x} \cdot \frac{2x}{\sin 2x}$ .
- (b) As  $x \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\frac{e^{3x}-1}{3x} \rightarrow 1$  by the standard exponential limit.
- (c) Also  $\frac{2x}{\sin 2x} \rightarrow 1$  by the standard sine limit.
- (d) The remaining constant factor is  $\frac{3x}{2x} = \frac{3}{2}$ .
- (e) Therefore the required limit is  $1 \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot 1 = \frac{3}{2}$ .
- (f) This matches option (C).

**Final Answer:**  $\frac{3}{2}$

**Answer:** (C)

[Go Back to Question 1](#)

Q2.

## Solution

**Concept:**

For an  $n \times n$  nonsingular matrix,  $|\text{adj } A| = |A|^{n-1}$ . This follows from  $A \text{adj } A = |A|I_n$  and determinant properties.

**Solution:**

- (a) The order of  $A$  is 3, so  $n = 3$ .
- (b) Use the formula  $|\text{adj } A| = |A|^{n-1}$ .
- (c) Substitute  $|A| = 4$  and  $n = 3$ .
- (d) Thus  $|\text{adj } A| = 4^{3-1} = 4^2 = 16$ .
- (e) The correct option is (C).

**Final Answer:** 16

**Answer:** (C)

[Go Back to Question 2](#)



Q3.

**Solution****Concept:**

For the parabola  $y^2 = 4ax$ , the tangent at  $(x_1, y_1)$  is  $yy_1 = 2a(x + x_1)$ . This avoids differentiating and is valid when the point lies on the parabola.

**Solution:**

- (a) Compare  $y^2 = 12x$  with  $y^2 = 4ax$ . Hence  $4a = 12$  and  $a = 3$ .
- (b) The given point is  $(x_1, y_1) = (3, 6)$ , and it lies on the curve since  $6^2 = 36 = 12 \cdot 3$ .
- (c) Use the tangent formula  $yy_1 = 2a(x + x_1)$ .
- (d) Substitute  $y_1 = 6$ ,  $a = 3$ , and  $x_1 = 3$ :  $6y = 6(x + 3)$ .
- (e) Divide by 6 to get  $y = x + 3$ .
- (f) Hence option (A) is correct.

**Final Answer:**  $y = x + 3$

**Answer: (A)**

[Go Back to Question 3](#)

Q4.

**Solution****Concept:**

An integral of the form  $\int \frac{f'(x)}{f(x)} dx$  equals  $\ln |f(x)| + C$ . Here the derivative of  $1 + x^3$  is exactly  $3x^2$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) Let  $u = 1 + x^3$ .
- (b) Then  $du = 3x^2 dx$ .
- (c) When  $x = 0$ ,  $u = 1$ ; when  $x = 1$ ,  $u = 2$ .
- (d) The integral becomes  $\int_1^2 \frac{du}{u}$ .
- (e) Evaluating gives  $[\ln u]_1^2 = \ln 2 - \ln 1 = \ln 2$ .
- (f) Therefore option (A) is correct.

**Final Answer:**  $\ln 2$

**Answer: (A)**

[Go Back to Question 4](#)



Q5.

**Solution****Concept:**

For an ellipse  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$  with  $a > b$ , the length of the latus rectum is  $\frac{2b^2}{a}$ . The larger denominator identifies the major axis.

**Solution:**

- (a) Here  $a^2 = 16$  and  $b^2 = 7$  because  $16 > 7$ .
- (b) Thus  $a = 4$  and  $b^2 = 7$ .
- (c) Use latus rectum length =  $\frac{2b^2}{a}$ .
- (d) Substitution gives  $\frac{2 \cdot 7}{4} = \frac{14}{4} = \frac{7}{2}$ .
- (e) So the correct answer is option (A).

**Final Answer:**  $\frac{7}{2}$

**Answer: (A)**

[Go Back to Question 5](#)

Q6.

**Solution****Concept:**

For two dice, all 36 ordered outcomes are equally likely. A prime sum can be 2, 3, 5, 7, or 11, and each sum has a known number of ordered outcomes.

**Solution:**

- (a) Total outcomes =  $6 \times 6 = 36$ .
- (b) Prime sums possible are 2, 3, 5, 7, 11.
- (c) Counts are: sum 2: 1, sum 3: 2, sum 5: 4, sum 7: 6, sum 11: 2.
- (d) Total favourable outcomes =  $1 + 2 + 4 + 6 + 2 = 15$ .
- (e) Probability =  $\frac{15}{36} = \frac{5}{12}$ .
- (f) Thus option (B) is correct.

**Final Answer:**  $\frac{5}{12}$

**Answer: (B)**

[Go Back to Question 6](#)



Q7.

**Solution****Concept:**

A trigonometric equation can often be solved by factoring. After finding possible sine values, count all angles in the specified closed interval.

**Solution:**

- (a) Factor the equation:  $\sin^2 x - \sin x = \sin x(\sin x - 1) = 0$ .
- (b) So  $\sin x = 0$  or  $\sin x = 1$ .
- (c) In  $[0, 2\pi]$ ,  $\sin x = 0$  gives  $x = 0, \pi, 2\pi$ .
- (d) In  $[0, 2\pi]$ ,  $\sin x = 1$  gives  $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$ .
- (e) Total number of solutions is  $3 + 1 = 4$ .
- (f) Hence option (C) is correct.

**Final Answer:** **Answer:** (C)[Go Back to Question 7](#)

Q8.

**Solution****Concept:**

Continuity at a point requires the limiting value to equal the defined value. The standard limit  $\lim_{u \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos u}{u^2} = \frac{1}{2}$  is used for cosine expressions.

**Solution:**

- (a) Continuity at 0 requires  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos kx}{x^2} = 8$ .
- (b) Write  $\frac{1 - \cos kx}{x^2} = k^2 \cdot \frac{1 - \cos kx}{(kx)^2}$ .
- (c) As  $x \rightarrow 0$ ,  $kx \rightarrow 0$ , so  $\frac{1 - \cos kx}{(kx)^2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}$ .
- (d) Thus the limit is  $\frac{k^2}{2}$ .
- (e) Set  $\frac{k^2}{2} = 8$ , giving  $k^2 = 16$ .
- (f) Since  $k > 0$ ,  $k = 4$ ; option (C).

**Final Answer:** **Answer:** (C)[Go Back to Question 8](#)

Q9.

**Solution****Concept:**

For an ellipse,  $c^2 = a^2 - b^2$  and eccentricity is  $e = \frac{c}{a}$ , where  $a$  is the semi-major axis and  $b$  is the semi-minor axis.

**Solution:**

- (a) Given  $a = 13$  and  $b = 5$ .
- (b) Compute  $c^2 = a^2 - b^2 = 13^2 - 5^2 = 169 - 25 = 144$ .
- (c) So  $c = 12$ .
- (d) Hence eccentricity  $e = \frac{c}{a} = \frac{12}{13}$ .
- (e) Therefore option (B) is correct.

**Final Answer:**  $\frac{12}{13}$

**Answer: (B)**

[Go Back to Question 9](#)

Q10.

**Solution****Concept:**

A separable differential equation is solved by bringing all  $y$  terms with  $dy$  and all  $x$  terms with  $dx$ . The given point determines the constant of integration.

**Solution:**

- (a) Given  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2x}{y}$ .
- (b) Rearrange as  $y dy = 2x dx$ .
- (c) Integrate both sides:  $\int y dy = \int 2x dx$ .
- (d) This gives  $\frac{y^2}{2} = x^2 + C$ , or  $y^2 - 2x^2 = K$ .
- (e) Use  $(1, 2)$ :  $K = 2^2 - 2(1)^2 = 4 - 2 = 2$ .
- (f) Therefore the solution is  $y^2 - 2x^2 = 2$ .

**Final Answer:**  $y^2 - 2x^2 = 2$

**Answer: (A)**

[Go Back to Question 10](#)



Q11.

**Solution****Concept:**

The  $n$ th term is obtained from the sum formula by  $a_n = S_n - S_{n-1}$ . This subtracts the sum of the first  $n - 1$  terms from the sum of the first  $n$  terms.

**Solution:**

- (a) Compute  $S_8 = 2(8)^2 - 8 = 128 - 8 = 120$ .
- (b) Compute  $S_7 = 2(7)^2 - 7 = 98 - 7 = 91$ .
- (c) Therefore  $a_8 = S_8 - S_7 = 120 - 91 = 29$ .
- (d) So the answer is option (C).

**Final Answer:** **Answer:** (C)[Go Back to Question 11](#)

Q12.

**Solution****Concept:**

Parallel lines have proportional coefficients of  $x$  and  $y$ . A line parallel to  $2x - 3y + 5 = 0$  has the form  $2x - 3y + c = 0$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) Let the required line be  $2x - 3y + c = 0$ .
- (b) It passes through  $(2, -1)$ .
- (c) Substitute the point:  $2(2) - 3(-1) + c = 0$ .
- (d) This gives  $4 + 3 + c = 0$ , so  $c = -7$ .
- (e) Hence the line is  $2x - 3y - 7 = 0$ .
- (f) The correct option is (A).

**Final Answer:** **Answer:** (A)[Go Back to Question 12](#)

Q13.

**Solution****Concept:**

A quadratic equation has equal roots when its discriminant is zero. For  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ , the discriminant is  $b^2 - 4ac$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) Here  $a = 1$ ,  $b = -(k + 2)$ , and  $c = 2k$ .
- (b) Set discriminant equal to zero:  $(k + 2)^2 - 4(1)(2k) = 0$ .
- (c) This gives  $k^2 + 4k + 4 - 8k = 0$ .
- (d) So  $k^2 - 4k + 4 = 0$ , or  $(k - 2)^2 = 0$ .
- (e) Hence  $k = 2$ .
- (f) Option (C) is correct.

**Final Answer:**

**Answer:** (C)

[Go Back to Question 13](#)

Q14.

**Solution****Concept:**

The expression  $\ln(x + \sqrt{1 + x^2})$  is the inverse hyperbolic sine form  $\sinh^{-1} x$ . Its derivative is  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x^2}}$ . We can also verify it directly by differentiation.

**Solution:**

- (a) Let  $u = x + \sqrt{1 + x^2}$ , so  $y = \ln u$ .
- (b) Then  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{u'}{u}$ .
- (c) Now  $u' = 1 + \frac{x}{\sqrt{1+x^2}} = \frac{\sqrt{1+x^2}+x}{\sqrt{1+x^2}}$ .
- (d) Thus  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\sqrt{1+x^2}+x}{\sqrt{1+x^2}(x+\sqrt{1+x^2})}$ .
- (e) The common factor  $x + \sqrt{1 + x^2}$  cancels, giving  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+x^2}}$ .
- (f) Therefore option (A) is correct.

**Final Answer:**

**Answer:** (A)

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Q15.

**Solution****Concept:**

For a  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ , the inverse is  $\frac{1}{ad-bc} \begin{pmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{pmatrix}$  if the determinant is non-zero.

**Solution:**

- (a) Here  $a = 2$ ,  $b = 3$ ,  $c = 1$ , and  $d = 2$ .
- (b) The determinant is  $2 \cdot 2 - 3 \cdot 1 = 4 - 3 = 1$ .
- (c) Therefore  $A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ .
- (d) The (2, 1) entry is  $-1$ .
- (e) Hence option (A) is correct.

**Final Answer:**  $\boxed{-1}$

**Answer:** (A)

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Q16.

**Solution****Concept:**

Mean is total sum divided by the number of observations. Adding a new observation changes both the total and the count.

**Solution:**

- (a) Original mean is 12 for 6 observations.
- (b) Original total =  $6 \times 12 = 72$ .
- (c) After adding 18, new total =  $72 + 18 = 90$ .
- (d) New number of observations = 7.
- (e) New mean =  $\frac{90}{7}$ .
- (f) Thus option (B) is correct.

**Final Answer:**  $\boxed{\frac{90}{7}}$

**Answer:** (B)

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Q17.

**Solution****Concept:**

To find the radius of a circle from its general equation, complete the square in  $x$  and  $y$  to convert it into standard form.

**Solution:**

- (a) Group the terms:  $(x^2 - 6x) + (y^2 + 8y) - 11 = 0$ .
- (b) Complete squares:  $x^2 - 6x = (x - 3)^2 - 9$  and  $y^2 + 8y = (y + 4)^2 - 16$ .
- (c) Substitute:  $(x - 3)^2 - 9 + (y + 4)^2 - 16 - 11 = 0$ .
- (d) Thus  $(x - 3)^2 + (y + 4)^2 = 36$ .
- (e) So  $r^2 = 36$  and  $r = 6$ .
- (f) Option (D) is correct.

**Final Answer:** **Answer:** (D)[Go Back to Question 17](#)

Q18.

**Solution****Concept:**

Area between two curves is the integral of upper curve minus lower curve between their intersection points. The intersection points determine the limits of integration.

**Solution:**

- (a) Find intersections:  $2x = x^2$ , so  $x(x - 2) = 0$ .
- (b) Thus  $x = 0$  and  $x = 2$ .
- (c) On  $[0, 2]$ ,  $2x \geq x^2$ , so upper curve is  $y = 2x$ .
- (d) Area =  $\int_0^2 (2x - x^2) dx$ .
- (e) Evaluate:  $\left[ x^2 - \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_0^2 = 4 - \frac{8}{3} = \frac{4}{3}$ .
- (f) Therefore option (C) is correct.

**Final Answer:** **Answer:** (C)[Go Back to Question 18](#)

Q19.

**Solution****Concept:**

The angle between two vectors is found using  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = |\vec{a}||\vec{b}| \cos \theta$ . If the dot product is zero, the vectors are perpendicular.

**Solution:**

- (a) Compute the dot product:  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 1(2) + 2(1) + (-2)(2)$ .
- (b) This equals  $2 + 2 - 4 = 0$ .
- (c) Since neither vector is the zero vector,  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = 0$  implies  $\cos \theta = 0$ .
- (d) Thus  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ .
- (e) So option (C) is correct.

**Final Answer:**  $\frac{\pi}{2}$

**Answer:** (C)

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Q20.

**Solution****Concept:**

For composition, the inner function is evaluated first. Then its output is substituted into the same function again.

**Solution:**

- (a) First compute  $f(1) = \frac{1}{1+1} = \frac{1}{2}$ .
- (b) Now compute  $f(f(1)) = f\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$ .
- (c) Substitute into  $f(x) = \frac{x}{x+1}$ .
- (d)  $f\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{2}+1} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{3}{2}} = \frac{1}{3}$ .
- (e) Therefore option (A) is correct.

**Final Answer:**  $\frac{1}{3}$

**Answer:** (A)

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Q21.

**Solution****Concept:**

For expressions of the form  $x + \frac{a}{x}$  with  $x > 0$ , AM-GM or differentiation can be used. The minimum occurs when the two positive terms are equal.

**Solution:**

- (a) By AM-GM,  $x + \frac{9}{x} \geq 2\sqrt{x \cdot \frac{9}{x}}$ .
- (b) The right side is  $2\sqrt{9} = 6$ .
- (c) Equality occurs when  $x = \frac{9}{x}$ .
- (d) This gives  $x^2 = 9$ , and since  $x > 0$ ,  $x = 3$ .
- (e) Therefore the minimum value is 6.
- (f) Option (B) is correct.

**Final Answer:**

**Answer:** (B)

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Q22.

**Solution****Concept:**

The general term in  $(a + b)^n$  is  $\binom{n}{r}a^{n-r}b^r$ . The coefficient of  $x^2$  comes from the term where  $(-2x)$  is squared.

**Solution:**

- (a) Choose  $r = 2$  in the binomial expansion.
- (b) The required term is  $\binom{5}{2}(1)^3(-2x)^2$ .
- (c) This equals  $10 \cdot 4x^2 = 40x^2$ .
- (d) Therefore the coefficient is 40.
- (e) The correct option is (C).

**Final Answer:**

**Answer:** (C)

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Q23.

**Solution****Concept:**

For a hyperbola  $\frac{x^2}{a^2} - \frac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$ , we use  $c^2 = a^2 + b^2$  and  $e = \frac{c}{a}$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) Here  $a^2 = 25$  and  $b^2 = 144$ .
- (b) So  $a = 5$ .
- (c) Compute  $c^2 = 25 + 144 = 169$ , hence  $c = 13$ .
- (d) Eccentricity  $e = \frac{c}{a} = \frac{13}{5}$ .
- (e) Thus option (B) is correct.

**Final Answer:**  $\frac{13}{5}$

**Answer: (B)**

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Q24.

**Solution****Concept:**

A square matrix is singular if and only if its determinant is zero. We compute the determinant and solve for the positive parameter value.

**Solution:**

- (a) The determinant is  $k \cdot k - 1 \cdot 4 = k^2 - 4$ .
- (b) For singularity, set  $k^2 - 4 = 0$ .
- (c) Thus  $(k - 2)(k + 2) = 0$ .
- (d) So  $k = 2$  or  $k = -2$ .
- (e) The positive value is  $k = 2$ .
- (f) Therefore option (B) is correct.

**Final Answer:**  $2$

**Answer: (B)**

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Q25.

**Solution****Concept:**

When drawing without replacement, the probability of the second event depends on the first draw. Multiplication rule is applied sequentially.

**Solution:**

- (a) Total balls initially =  $3 + 2 = 5$ .
- (b) Probability first ball is red =  $\frac{3}{5}$ .
- (c) After drawing one red ball, red balls left = 2 and total balls left = 4.
- (d) Probability second ball is red given first red =  $\frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$ .
- (e) Therefore required probability =  $\frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{10}$ .
- (f) So option (A) is correct.

**Final Answer:**  $\frac{3}{10}$

**Answer:** (A)

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Q26.

**Solution****Concept:**

The derivative of  $1 + \sin x$  is  $\cos x$ . Therefore the substitution  $u = 1 + \sin x$  converts the integral into a logarithmic integral.

**Solution:**

- (a) Let  $u = 1 + \sin x$ .
- (b) Then  $du = \cos x dx$ .
- (c) When  $x = 0$ ,  $u = 1 + 0 = 1$ .
- (d) When  $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$ ,  $u = 1 + 1 = 2$ .
- (e) The integral becomes  $\int_1^2 \frac{du}{u} = \ln 2$ .
- (f) Thus option (A) is correct.

**Final Answer:**  $\ln 2$

**Answer:** (A)

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Q27.

**Solution****Concept:**

A complex number can be simplified using powers. Since  $(1 + i)^2 = 2i$ , higher powers become easier to compute by grouping.

**Solution:**

- (a) First compute  $(1 + i)^2 = 1 + 2i + i^2 = 2i$ .
- (b) Then  $(1 + i)^6 = ((1 + i)^2)^3 = (2i)^3$ .
- (c) Now  $(2i)^3 = 8i^3$ .
- (d) Since  $i^2 = -1$ ,  $i^3 = -i$ .
- (e) Therefore  $(1 + i)^6 = 8(-i) = -8i$ .
- (f) The correct option is (B).

**Final Answer:** **Answer:** (B)[Go Back to Question 27](#)

Q28.

**Solution****Concept:**

In linear programming, a linear objective function attains its maximum at a vertex of the feasible region. We list the corner points and evaluate the objective function.

**Solution:**

- (a) The feasible vertices are (0, 0), (4, 0), (4, 2), (3, 3), and (0, 3).
- (b) Evaluate  $Z = 2x + 5y$  at these points.
- (c) At (0, 0),  $Z = 0$ ; at (4, 0),  $Z = 8$ .
- (d) At (4, 2),  $Z = 8 + 10 = 18$ .
- (e) At (3, 3),  $Z = 6 + 15 = 21$ ; at (0, 3),  $Z = 15$ .
- (f) The maximum value is 21, so option (C) is correct.

**Final Answer:** **Answer:** (C)[Go Back to Question 28](#)

Q29.

**Solution****Concept:**

The absolute value function  $|g(x)|$  may fail to be differentiable at points where  $g(x) = 0$  and  $g$  changes sign. These points form sharp corners.

**Solution:**

- (a) Here  $g(x) = x^2 - 4$ .
- (b) Set  $g(x) = 0$ :  $x^2 - 4 = 0$ .
- (c) This gives  $(x - 2)(x + 2) = 0$ , so  $x = 2$  or  $x = -2$ .
- (d) At both points,  $x^2 - 4$  changes sign, so  $|x^2 - 4|$  has a corner.
- (e) Therefore the function is not differentiable at  $x = -2$  and  $x = 2$ .
- (f) Option (B) is correct.

**Final Answer:**  $x = -2, 2$

**Answer:** (B)

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Q30.

**Solution****Concept:**

The distance of a point  $(x_1, y_1, z_1)$  from a plane  $ax + by + cz + d = 0$  is  $\frac{|ax_1 + by_1 + cz_1 + d|}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}}$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) Rewrite the plane as  $2x - y + 2z - 9 = 0$ .
- (b) For the origin,  $(x_1, y_1, z_1) = (0, 0, 0)$ .
- (c) Numerator =  $|2(0) - 0 + 2(0) - 9| = 9$ .
- (d) Denominator =  $\sqrt{2^2 + (-1)^2 + 2^2} = \sqrt{4 + 1 + 4} = 3$ .
- (e) Distance =  $\frac{9}{3} = 3$ .
- (f) Hence option (C) is correct.

**Final Answer:**  $3$

**Answer:** (C)

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Q31.

**Solution****Concept:**

For an ellipse with major axis along the  $x$ -axis,  $c^2 = a^2 - b^2$  and the foci are  $(-c, 0)$  and  $(c, 0)$ . Their distance is  $2c$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) Here  $a^2 = 49$  and  $b^2 = 24$ .
- (b) Compute  $c^2 = 49 - 24 = 25$ .
- (c) Thus  $c = 5$ .
- (d) The foci are  $(-5, 0)$  and  $(5, 0)$ .
- (e) The distance between them is  $2c = 10$ .
- (f) Therefore option (C) is correct.

**Final Answer:** 10**Answer:** (C)[Go Back to Question 31](#)

Q32.

**Solution****Concept:**

A first-order linear differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} + Py = Q$  is solved using the integrating factor  $e^{\int P dx}$ . Here  $P = -1$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) The integrating factor is  $e^{\int -1 dx} = e^{-x}$ .
- (b) Multiply the equation by  $e^{-x}$ :  $e^{-x} \frac{dy}{dx} - e^{-x} y = e^x$ .
- (c) The left side is  $\frac{d}{dx}(ye^{-x})$ .
- (d) So  $\frac{d}{dx}(ye^{-x}) = e^x$ .
- (e) Integrate:  $ye^{-x} = e^x + C$ , hence  $y = e^{2x} + Ce^x$ .
- (f) Use  $y(0) = 1$ :  $1 = 1 + C$ , so  $C = 0$ . Therefore  $y = e^{2x}$ .

**Final Answer:**  $y = e^{2x}$ **Answer:** (A)[Go Back to Question 32](#)

Q33.

**Solution****Concept:**

In an arithmetic progression,  $a_n = a + (n - 1)d$ . Once the first term and common difference are known, the sum is  $S_n = \frac{n}{2}[2a + (n - 1)d]$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) Second term:  $a + d = 7$ .
- (b) Fifth term:  $a + 4d = 16$ .
- (c) Subtracting gives  $3d = 9$ , so  $d = 3$ .
- (d) Then  $a + d = 7$  gives  $a = 4$ .
- (e) Now  $S_{10} = \frac{10}{2}[2(4) + 9(3)]$ .
- (f) So  $S_{10} = 5(8 + 27) = 5 \cdot 35 = 175$ .

**Final Answer:** 175**Answer:** (C)[Go Back to Question 33](#)

Q34.

**Solution****Concept:**

Stationary points occur where the first derivative is zero. We differentiate the function and count the real roots of the derivative.

**Solution:**

- (a) Differentiate:  $f'(x) = 3x^2 - 12x + 9$ .
- (b) Factor:  $f'(x) = 3(x^2 - 4x + 3) = 3(x - 1)(x - 3)$ .
- (c) Set  $f'(x) = 0$ .
- (d) This gives  $x = 1$  or  $x = 3$ .
- (e) There are two stationary points.
- (f) Thus option (C) is correct.

**Final Answer:** 2**Answer:** (C)[Go Back to Question 34](#)

Q35.

**Solution****Concept:**

The magnitude of a sum of vectors is computed using the dot product formula:  $|\vec{a} + \vec{b}|^2 = |\vec{a}|^2 + |\vec{b}|^2 + 2\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) Since  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$  are unit vectors,  $|\vec{a}| = |\vec{b}| = 1$ .
- (b) The angle between them is  $60^\circ$ , so  $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = |\vec{a}||\vec{b}| \cos 60^\circ = \frac{1}{2}$ .
- (c) Now  $|\vec{a} + \vec{b}|^2 = 1^2 + 1^2 + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2}$ .
- (d) This equals  $1 + 1 + 1 = 3$ .
- (e) Therefore  $|\vec{a} + \vec{b}| = \sqrt{3}$ .
- (f) Option (C) is correct.

**Final Answer:**  $\sqrt{3}$

**Answer:** (C)

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Q36.

**Solution****Concept:**

A matrix equation can be converted into simultaneous linear equations by multiplying the matrix with the column vector and equating corresponding entries.

**Solution:**

- (a) Matrix multiplication gives  $\begin{pmatrix} 2x + y \\ x + y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ .
- (b) Thus  $2x + y = 5$  and  $x + y = 3$ .
- (c) Subtract the second equation from the first:  $x = 2$ .
- (d) Substitute into  $x + y = 3$ :  $2 + y = 3$ .
- (e) Hence  $y = 1$ .
- (f) Therefore option (A) is correct.

**Final Answer:** 1

**Answer:** (A)

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Q37.

**Solution****Concept:**

Variance is the mean of squared deviations from the arithmetic mean. For a small data set, direct computation is clear and reliable.

**Solution:**

- (a) The mean is  $\bar{x} = \frac{2+4+6+8}{4} = 5$ .
- (b) Deviations are  $-3, -1, 1, 3$ .
- (c) Squared deviations are  $9, 1, 1, 9$ .
- (d) Their sum is 20.
- (e) Variance =  $\frac{20}{4} = 5$ .
- (f) Thus option (B) is correct.

**Final Answer:** **Answer:** (B)[Go Back to Question 37](#)

Q38.

**Solution****Concept:**

The cosine function satisfies  $-1 \leq \cos x \leq 1$ . To maximize a linear expression in  $\cos x$ , take the largest possible value of  $\cos x$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) Since  $\cos x \leq 1$ , we have  $2 \cos x \leq 2$ .
- (b) Therefore  $3 + 2 \cos x \leq 3 + 2 = 5$ .
- (c) This value is attained when  $\cos x = 1$ , for example at  $x = 0$ .
- (d) Hence the maximum value is 5.
- (e) Option (C) is correct.

**Final Answer:** **Answer:** (C)[Go Back to Question 38](#)

Q39.

**Solution****Concept:**

For the standard parabola  $x^2 = 4ay$ , the focus is  $(0, a)$ . If  $a$  is negative, the parabola opens downward and the focus lies below the origin.

**Solution:**

- (a) Compare  $x^2 = -8y$  with  $x^2 = 4ay$ .
- (b) Thus  $4a = -8$ , giving  $a = -2$ .
- (c) The focus is  $(0, a)$ .
- (d) Therefore the focus is  $(0, -2)$ .
- (e) This corresponds to option (B).

**Final Answer:**  $(0, -2)$ **Answer: (B)**[Go Back to Question 39](#)

Q40.

**Solution****Concept:**

Use the substitution  $u = 1 + x^2$  because its differential contains  $2x dx$ . The integral then becomes a simple power integral in  $u$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) Let  $u = 1 + x^2$ .
- (b) Then  $du = 2x dx$ , so  $x dx = \frac{1}{2} du$ .
- (c) When  $x = 0$ ,  $u = 1$ ; when  $x = 1$ ,  $u = 2$ .
- (d) The integral becomes  $\frac{1}{2} \int_1^2 u^{-2} du$ .
- (e) This is  $\frac{1}{2} [-u^{-1}]_1^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left(-\frac{1}{2} + 1\right) = \frac{1}{4}$ .
- (f) Hence option (A) is correct.

**Final Answer:**  $\frac{1}{4}$ **Answer: (A)**[Go Back to Question 40](#)

Q41.

**Solution****Concept:**

Two lines are perpendicular if the product of their slopes is  $-1$ . The angle between perpendicular lines is  $90^\circ$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) The slope of  $y = \sqrt{3}x$  is  $m_1 = \sqrt{3}$ .
- (b) The slope of  $y = -\frac{x}{\sqrt{3}}$  is  $m_2 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$ .
- (c) Their product is  $m_1 m_2 = \sqrt{3} \left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right) = -1$ .
- (d) Therefore the lines are perpendicular.
- (e) Hence the angle between them is  $90^\circ$ .
- (f) Option (D) is correct.

**Final Answer:** **Answer:** (D)[Go Back to Question 41](#)

Q42.

**Solution****Concept:**

The slope of the tangent to a differentiable curve  $y = f(x)$  at a point is given by  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  evaluated at that point.

**Solution:**

- (a) Given  $y = x^3$ .
- (b) Differentiate:  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2$ .
- (c) At  $x = 1$ , the slope is  $3(1)^2 = 3$ .
- (d) Therefore the slope of the tangent is 3.
- (e) This matches option (C).

**Final Answer:** **Answer:** (C)[Go Back to Question 42](#)

Q43.

**Solution****Concept:**

The scalar triple product  $[\vec{a} \vec{b} \vec{c}]$  is the determinant formed from the components of the three vectors. It gives the signed volume of the parallelepiped.

**Solution:**

(a) Write the vectors as rows:  $\vec{a} = (1, 0, 2)$ ,  $\vec{b} = (2, 1, 0)$ ,  $\vec{c} = (0, 1, 1)$ .

(b) Compute  $\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$ .

(c) Expanding along the first row gives  $1(1 \cdot 1 - 0 \cdot 1) + 2(2 \cdot 1 - 1 \cdot 0)$ .

(d) This equals  $1 + 2(2) = 5$ .

(e) Therefore the scalar triple product is 5.

(f) Option (C) is correct.

**Final Answer:**

**Answer:** (C)

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Q44.

**Solution****Concept:**

For  $z = a + ib$ ,  $z + \bar{z} = 2a$  and  $z\bar{z} = a^2 + b^2$ . These relations determine the real and imaginary parts.

**Solution:**

(a) Let  $z = a + ib$  with  $b > 0$ .

(b) Given  $z + \bar{z} = 2a = 6$ , so  $a = 3$ .

(c) Also  $z\bar{z} = a^2 + b^2 = 13$ .

(d) Substitute  $a = 3$ :  $9 + b^2 = 13$ .

(e) Thus  $b^2 = 4$ , and since  $b > 0$ ,  $b = 2$ .

(f) Therefore  $z = 3 + 2i$ .

**Final Answer:**

**Answer:** (B)

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Q45.

**Solution****Concept:**

The order is the highest order derivative appearing in the differential equation. The degree is the power of the highest order derivative when the equation is polynomial in derivatives.

**Solution:**

- (a) The highest derivative present is  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$ .
- (b) Therefore the order is 2.
- (c) The equation is polynomial in derivatives.
- (d) The highest order derivative is squared.
- (e) Therefore the degree is 2.
- (f) Hence the answer is 2, 2.

**Final Answer:** 2, 2**Answer:** (A)[Go Back to Question 45](#)

Q46.

**Solution****Concept:**

Since  $\frac{d}{dx} \tan u = \sec^2 u \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$ , an adjustment factor is needed when the angle is  $3x$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) Let  $u = 3x$ .
- (b) Then  $du = 3dx$ , so  $dx = \frac{1}{3}du$ .
- (c) The integral becomes  $\frac{1}{3} \int \sec^2 u \, du$ .
- (d) This equals  $\frac{1}{3} \tan u + C$ .
- (e) Substitute back  $u = 3x$ .
- (f) Therefore the integral is  $\frac{1}{3} \tan 3x + C$ .

**Final Answer:**  $\frac{1}{3} \tan 3x + C$ **Answer:** (B)[Go Back to Question 46](#)

Q47.

**Solution****Concept:**

The determinant of a matrix is the product of its eigenvalues. Also, for a nonsingular matrix,  
 $|A^{-1}| = \frac{1}{|A|}$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) The eigenvalues of  $A$  are 2 and 5.
- (b) Therefore  $|A| = 2 \cdot 5 = 10$ .
- (c) Since  $|A| \neq 0$ , the inverse exists.
- (d) Now  $|A^{-1}| = \frac{1}{|A|} = \frac{1}{10}$ .
- (e) Thus option (B) is correct.

**Final Answer:**  $\frac{1}{10}$

**Answer: (B)**

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Q48.

**Solution****Concept:**

The standard trigonometric limit  $\lim_{u \rightarrow 0} \frac{\tan u}{u} = 1$  is used. We multiply and divide by 5 to create this form.

**Solution:**

- (a) Write  $\frac{\tan 5x}{x} = 5 \cdot \frac{\tan 5x}{5x}$ .
- (b) As  $x \rightarrow 0$ ,  $5x \rightarrow 0$ .
- (c) Therefore  $\frac{\tan 5x}{5x} \rightarrow 1$ .
- (d) Hence the limit is  $5 \cdot 1 = 5$ .
- (e) So option (C) is correct.

**Final Answer:** 5

**Answer: (C)**

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Q49.

**Solution****Concept:**

The standard equation of a circle with centre  $(h, k)$  and radius  $r$  is  $(x - h)^2 + (y - k)^2 = r^2$ . The radius is the distance from the centre to any point on the circle.

**Solution:**

- (a) The centre is  $(-1, 2)$ , so the equation has the form  $(x + 1)^2 + (y - 2)^2 = r^2$ .
- (b) Find  $r$  using the point  $(3, 5)$ .
- (c)  $r^2 = (3 - (-1))^2 + (5 - 2)^2 = 4^2 + 3^2 = 16 + 9 = 25$ .
- (d) Therefore the circle is  $(x + 1)^2 + (y - 2)^2 = 25$ .
- (e) The correct option is (A).

**Final Answer:**  $(x + 1)^2 + (y - 2)^2 = 25$

**Answer:** (A)

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Q50.

**Solution****Concept:**

A differentiable function is increasing on intervals where its derivative is positive. Therefore we solve the inequality  $(x - 2)(x + 1) > 0$ .

**Solution:**

- (a) The critical points are obtained from  $(x - 2)(x + 1) = 0$ .
- (b) So  $x = 2$  and  $x = -1$ .
- (c) Check signs of the product on intervals  $(-\infty, -1)$ ,  $(-1, 2)$ , and  $(2, \infty)$ .
- (d) For  $x < -1$ , both factors are negative, so the product is positive.
- (e) For  $-1 < x < 2$ , the product is negative; for  $x > 2$ , both factors are positive.
- (f) Thus  $f$  is increasing for  $x < -1$  or  $x > 2$ , which is option (B).

**Final Answer:**  $x < -1$  or  $x > 2$

**Answer:** (B)

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**Answer Key**

| Q  | Ans | Q  | Ans | Q  | Ans | Q  | Ans | Q  | Ans |
|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|
| 1  | C   | 2  | C   | 3  | A   | 4  | A   | 5  | A   |
| 6  | B   | 7  | C   | 8  | C   | 9  | B   | 10 | A   |
| 11 | C   | 12 | A   | 13 | C   | 14 | A   | 15 | A   |
| 16 | B   | 17 | D   | 18 | C   | 19 | C   | 20 | A   |
| 21 | B   | 22 | C   | 23 | B   | 24 | B   | 25 | A   |
| 26 | A   | 27 | B   | 28 | C   | 29 | B   | 30 | C   |
| 31 | C   | 32 | A   | 33 | C   | 34 | C   | 35 | C   |
| 36 | A   | 37 | B   | 38 | C   | 39 | B   | 40 | A   |
| 41 | D   | 42 | C   | 43 | C   | 44 | B   | 45 | A   |
| 46 | B   | 47 | B   | 48 | C   | 49 | A   | 50 | B   |

