

# Mathematics Talent Reward Programme

## Question Paper for Junior Category

2015

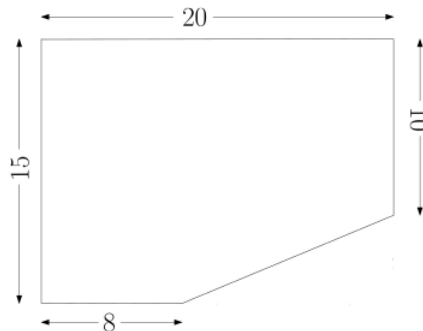
Total Marks: 150

Allotted Time: 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Multiple Choice questions

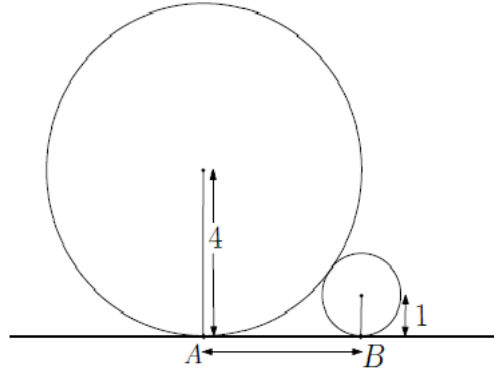
*[You should answer these questions in the first page according to the order given in the question. Each question has only one correct option. You will be awarded 4 marks for the correct answer, 1 mark if the question is not attempted and 0 marks for wrong answer.]*

1. In a ceremony all the guests present shook hands with each other. There were 55 handshakes observed. How many guests were there?  
A. 9   B. 10   C. 11   D. 12
2. Let  $x$  be a two-digit prime number such that if its digits are interchanged, we get a new prime number  $y$ . If the difference between  $x$  and  $y$  is 18, then what is the value of  $5xy$ ?  
A. 2005   B. 2015   C. 2025   D. 2035
3. How many times during a day do the hour hand and the minute hand of a clock make a right angle?  
A. 23   B. 24   C. 25   D. None of these.
4. Two trains start from  $A$  and  $B$  and travel towards each other at 50 km/h and 60 km/h respectively. At the time of meeting the second train has travelled 120 km more than the first one. Find the initial distance between them in kilometers.  
A. 1280   B. 1320   C. 1300   D. 1380
5. What is the last digit of  $7^{2015}$ ?  
A. 1   B. 3   C. 7   D. 9
6. What is the area of the region in the figure below?



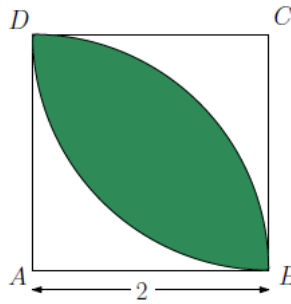
- a) 250                      b) 270                      c) 300                      d) 320

7. What is the length of the segment  $AB$  in the figure below?



- a) 4                      b) 5                      c) 3                      d)  $3\sqrt{3}$ .

8. If the figure below, the square has sides of length 2 units. Two arcs of a circle are drawn with centers at  $A$  and  $C$  respectively and radius 2 units. What is the area of the shaded region?



- a)  $2\pi$                       b)  $2\pi - 3$                       c)  $2(\pi - 2)$                       d)  $2(\pi - 3)$

9. A can contains a mixture of two liquids  $A$  and  $B$  in the ratio 7:5. When 9 litres of the mixture are drawn and replaced by the same amount of liquid  $B$ , the ratio of  $A$  and  $B$  becomes 7:9. How many litres of liquid  $A$  was contained in the can initially?

- a) 18                      b) 19                      c) 20                      d) None of these

10. From a square with sides of length 2 m, corners are cut away so as to form a regular octagon. What is the area of the octagon in sq.m?

- a)  $2\sqrt{3}$                       b)  $\frac{4}{\sqrt{3}}$                       c)  $4(\sqrt{2} - 1)$                       d) None of these

11. Solve for  $x$  and  $y$  :  $\sqrt{9x^2 - 30x + 74} + \sqrt{4y^2 + 28y + 74} = 12$

- a)  $x = \frac{5}{3}, y = \frac{7}{2}$                       b)  $x = \frac{5}{3}, y = -\frac{7}{2}$                       c)  $x = \frac{7}{2}, y = \frac{5}{3}$                       d)  $x = \frac{7}{2}, y = -\frac{5}{3}$

12. Define a sequence by  $a_0 = a_1 = 1$  and  $a_n = a_{n-1}a_{n-2} + 1$  for  $n > 1$ . Then

- a)  $a_{2015}$  is odd and  $a_{2016}$  is odd                      b)  $a_{2015}$  is even and  $a_{2016}$  is odd  
c)  $a_{2015}$  is odd and  $a_{2016}$  is even                      d)  $a_{2015}$  is even and  $a_{2016}$  is even

13. Consider the point  $(4, 0)$  on the  $x, y$ -plane. Now if axes are rotated  $45^\circ$  anticlockwise then what are the new co-ordinates of this point in the new system?

a)  $(2\sqrt{2}, 2\sqrt{2})$       b)  $(2\sqrt{2}, 0)$       c)  $(2\sqrt{2}, -2\sqrt{2})$       d)  $(4\sqrt{2}, 2\sqrt{2})$ .

14. Find the area of the region in the co-ordinate plane which satisfies all the following inequalities.

$$\begin{aligned}x + y &\leq 1 \\x - y &\leq 1 \\y - x &\leq 1 \\x + y &\geq -1\end{aligned}$$

a)  $\sqrt{2}$       b) 2      c)  $2\sqrt{2}$       d) 4

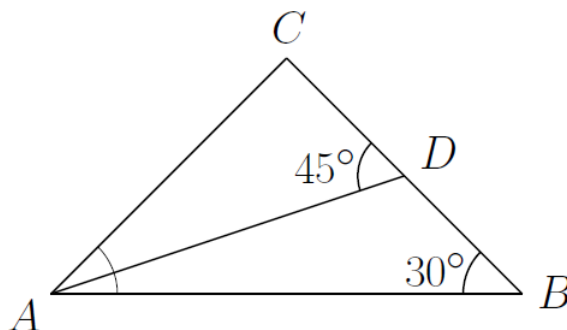
15. Consider a hollow paper cone with slant height 4 cm. It is cut along the slant surface and unfolded to make a sector. This sector subtends an angle of  $60^\circ$  at the center. What is the surface area of the cone in sq.cm?

a)  $\frac{5\pi}{3}$       b)  $2\pi$       c)  $\frac{8\pi}{3}$       d)  $3\pi$

### Short Answer Type Questions

[Each question carries a total of 15 marks. Credit will be given to partially correct answers]

1. A 15 cm long column of ants starts crawling. A rebel ant at the end of the column steps out and starts marching forward at a higher speed than the column. On reaching the front of the column, it immediately turns around and marches back at the same speed. When he reaches the end of the column he finds that the column of the remaining ants has moved exactly 15 cm. What distance did the rebel ant travel?
2. Consider the numbers  $1, 2, 3, 4, \dots, 13$ . Can these numbers be partitioned into two groups such that the products of the elements are same in both groups?



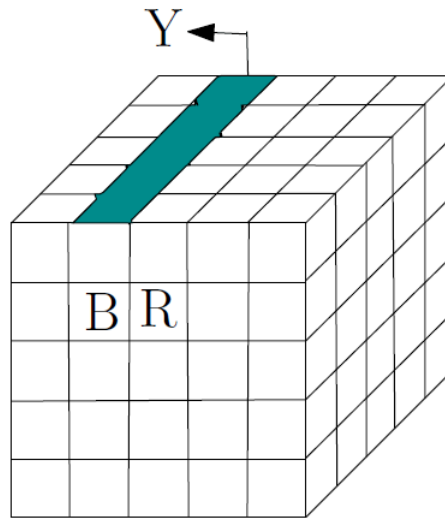
3. In triangle  $\triangle BAC$  with  $\angle ABC = 30^\circ$ .  $D$  is the midpoint of  $BC$ . We join  $A$  and  $D$  and  $\angle CDA = 45^\circ$ . Find  $\angle BAC$
4. Let  $P, Q, R, S$  be the midpoints of the sides  $AB, BC, CD$  and  $DA$  respectively of a rectangle  $ABCD$ . If the area of the rectangle is  $\Delta$ , then calculate the area bounded by the straight lines  $AQ, BR, CS$  and  $DP$  in terms of  $\Delta$ .
5. A pentagon is inscribed inside a fixed circle. Show that for the area of the pentagon to be maximum, it must be a regular one.

6. There are 125 unit cubes each of whose faces are coloured with blue, green and red such that each colour is used at least once and opposite faces have the same colour. Now, a  $5 \times 5 \times 5$  cube is constructed using these small cubes such that the touching faces are of the same colour.

i) Suppose two adjacent squares on one face of that whole cube are of different colours (say blue and red as in the figure below). Then show that the entire column containing the red square will be coloured red. Also the same should hold for the column containing the blue square.

ii) Show that the squares in the strip marked  $Y$  should also be of the same colour. Also find this colour. [3]

iii) Hence or otherwise show that there exists a face of the large cube in which all the squares are of the same colour.



*Use of calculators is not allowed. You may use a ruler and a compass for construction.  
~ Best of Luck ~*

## Mathematics Talent Reward Programme

Model Solutions for Junior Category

### Multiple Choice Questions

[Each question has only one correct option. You will be awarded 4 marks for the correct answer, 1 mark if the question is not attempted and 0 marks for wrong answer.]

1. (C) [Observe  $n$  people will have  $\binom{n}{2}$  handshakes]
2. (B) [ $x = 10a + b \Rightarrow |9a - 9b| = 18 \Rightarrow |a - b| = 2$ , now check all possibilities]
3. (D) [minute hand completes 11 rotations wrt hour hand, 2 right angles each rotations]
4. (B) [ $2^{nd}$  train travels 10km more in each hour, hence time of journey is 12 hour, and their relative speed is 110 km/h]
5. (B) [ $7^1 \equiv 7, 7^2 \equiv 9, 7^3 \equiv 3, 7^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{10}$ . Now observe cyclicity]
6. (B) [Complete the rectangle, find the area, then subtract the area of added right angled triangle]
7. (A) [Observe that distance between centres 5, then complete the right angle and apply pythagorean theorem]
8. (C) [ $2 \times \text{area}(\text{arc}(ABD) - \Delta ABD)$ ]
9. (D) [ $7x : 5x + 9 = 7 : 9$ , find  $7x + \frac{9 \times 7}{7+5}$ ]
10. (D) [If the side of the octagon is  $x$ , then looking at the right angled triangle in the corner, we get  $2(1 - \frac{x}{2})^2 = x^2$ , solving  $x$  and subtracting the areas of those triangles from the square, we get the result]
11. (B) [Observe  $9x^2 - 30x + 74 \geq 49$  and  $4y^2 + 28y + 74 \geq 25$ ]
12. (C) [Observe  $\{a_i\}_{n=0}^{\infty} \equiv \{1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0 \dots\} \pmod{2}$ ]
13. (C) [Find the point on  $x+y=0$  which is 4 units away from origin]
14. (B) [Observe that the region is a square with diagonal 2]
15. (C) [Observe  $\pi r l = \frac{1}{6} \pi l^2$ ]

### Short Answer Type Questions

[Each question carries a total of 15 marks. Credit will be given to partially correct answers]

1. Let velocity of the column be  $u$  cm/s and velocity of the rebel ant be  $v$  cm/s. So, the relative velocity of the rebel ant with respect to the column will be  $(v - u)$  cm/s when going forward and  $v + u$  cm/s when coming back.

$\therefore$  Total time taken =  $\frac{15}{v-u} + \frac{15}{v+u}$  s. Also distance travelled by the column is  $\left(\frac{15}{v-u} + \frac{15}{v+u}\right) \cdot u$  which is given to be 15 cm.

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \left(\frac{15}{v-u} + \frac{15}{v+u}\right) \cdot u &= 15 \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\frac{v}{u} - 1} + \frac{1}{\frac{v}{u} + 1} &= 1 \\ \Rightarrow 2\left(\frac{v}{u}\right) &= \left(\frac{v}{u}\right)^2 - 1 \\ \Rightarrow \left(\frac{v}{u}\right)^2 - 2\left(\frac{v}{u}\right) - 1 &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow \left(\left(\frac{v}{u}\right) - 1\right)^2 &= 2 \\ \Rightarrow \left(\frac{v}{u}\right) - 1 &= \pm\sqrt{2} \\ \Rightarrow \left(\frac{v}{u}\right) &= 1 + \sqrt{2} \left[\because 1 - \sqrt{2} < 0 \text{ and } \left(\frac{v}{u}\right) > 0\right] \end{aligned}$$

So, the distance travelled by the rebel ant is

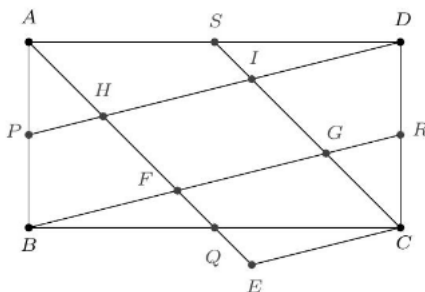
$$\left(\frac{15}{v-u} + \frac{15}{v+u}\right) \cdot v = \left(\left(\frac{15}{v-u} + \frac{15}{v+u}\right) \cdot u\right) \cdot \frac{v}{u} = 15 \cdot \frac{v}{u} = 15(1 + \sqrt{2}) \text{ cm}$$

2. If we partition the numbers  $1, 2, \dots, 13$  into 2 groups then one of them must contain the number 13 and the other group will not. Then product of the elements in the group containing 13 will be divisible by 13 whereas the product of the elements in the other group will not be divisible by 13. Hence a partition such that the product of elements in both groups is the same is not possible.
3. Consider a  $3 \times 3$  chessboard and label the squares as shown below.

1	4	7
2	5	8
3	6	9

Now consider the cyclic path of the knight's move  $1 \rightarrow 8 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 9 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 7 \rightarrow 6 \rightarrow 1$ . So, in a  $3 \times 3$  board the knight can move from any square to any square except the middlemost. Call this  $3 \times 3$  board without the middlemost square a  $3 \times 3$  ring. Now you can cover a  $8 \times 8$  chessboard with  $3 \times 3$  overlapping rings and so you can move from any square in a ring to any other square in that ring as well as the squares in rings with which it overlaps. Thus you can traverse the whole chessboard with a knight.

4. Draw a line through  $C$  parallel to  $BR$ . Let it intersect extended  $AQ$  at  $E$ . Let  $BR$  intersect  $AQ$  at  $F$  and  $SC$  at  $G$  and  $DP$  intersect them at  $H$  and  $I$  respectively. Now consider  $\triangle BFQ$  and  $\triangle CEQ$ .



$$\begin{aligned}
 BQ &= QC \\
 \angle BQF &= \angle CQE \text{ [ Vertically Opposite Angle ]} \\
 \angle QBF &= \angle QCE [\because BF \parallel EC] \\
 \therefore \triangle BFQ &\cong \triangle CEQ
 \end{aligned}$$

Now observe that in  $\triangle ABQ$  and  $\triangle CDS$

$$\begin{aligned}
 AB &= CD \\
 BQ &= DS \\
 \angle ABQ &= \angle CDS \\
 \therefore \triangle ABQ &\cong \triangle CDS \\
 \therefore \angle AQB &= \angle DSC = \angle SCQ [\because BC \parallel AD] \\
 \implies AE &\parallel CS
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we can show that  $BR \parallel DP$ .

Now we get that,  $DP \parallel BR \parallel CE$  so, we can conclude that

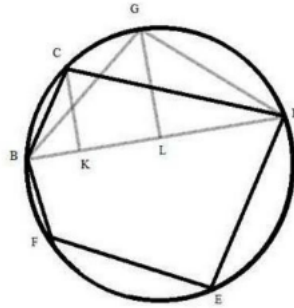
$$\frac{CG}{GI} = \frac{CR}{RD} = 1 \implies CG = GI$$

Hence parallelograms  $ECGF$  and  $FGIH$  has same height  $[\because AE \parallel CS]$  and same base length  $[\because CG = GI]$ . So, they have same area. Hence,

$$\text{Area of } \triangle CDI = \text{Area of } \triangle DAH = \text{Area of } \triangle ABF$$

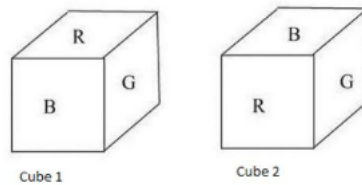
So finally we get  $\text{Area of } FGIH = \frac{\text{Area of } ABCD}{5} = \frac{\Delta}{5}$ .

5. Let us consider a pentagon  $BCDEF$  inscribed in the circle which is irregular. Then  $BCDEF$  has at least a pair of consecutive sides whose lengths are different. Let these sides be  $BC$  and  $CD$  (as shown in the figure). Now join  $BD$  and let  $G$  be the midpoint of the circular arc  $BCD$ . Perpendiculars  $CK$  and  $GL$  are dropped upon  $BD$ . It can be easily seen that  $GL > CK$  and hence area of  $\triangle BGD$  is greater than that of  $\triangle BCD$  [as they both have same base  $BD$ ]. Now area of the pentagon  $BGDEF$  = area of the quadrilateral  $BDEF$  + area of triangle  $BGD$ . Also area of the pentagon  $BCDEF$  = area of the quadrilateral  $BDEF$  + area of triangle  $BCD$ . Hence area of pentagon  $BGDEF$  (which is also inscribed in the circle) is greater than the area of the pentagon  $BCDEF$ . So we conclude that  $BCDEF$  cannot be a pentagon which has the maximum area among all the inscribed pentagons.

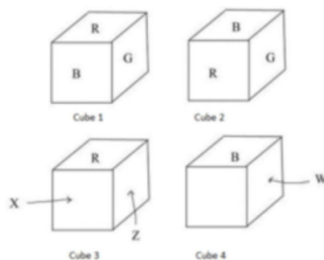


But note that if the pentagon was regular then the points  $C$  and  $G$  would have coincided, in other words, we could not have drawn another pentagon inscribed in the circle but with greater area. Thus for the area to be maximum the pentagon has to be regular.

6. (a) First we see that due to the colouring scheme each small cube has two blue faces, two red faces and two green faces. Let us draw a clearer picture of the adjacent cubes coloured red and blue.



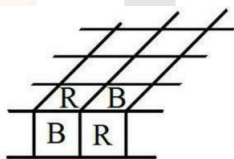
We see that the touching faces cannot be blue because then blue would be used in four of the faces. Similarly it cannot be red and hence must be green. Then the top face of cube 1 must be red and that of cube 2 must be blue. Now we will look at the cube just below cube 1 and cube 2. Let us call them cube 3 and cube 4 respectively.



As the bottom face of cube 1 is also red the top face of cube 3 must be red. (As touching faces are of the same colour). Similarly the top face of cube 4 is blue. Now the face marked X is either blue or green. If it is green then face marked Z is blue and the face of cube 4 touching Z must also be blue. But the top face of cube 4 is blue which makes blue appear 4 times in cube 4. So, X must be blue and Z is green. Hence W is also green which leaves the front face of cube 4 red in colour.

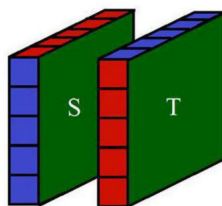
In the same process the cube lying below cube 3 will have blue colour in its front face and so on for the all the cubes lying below. By a similar argument the cubes lying above cube 1 will have blue colour in their front faces. So, the entire column will be blue in colour. Similarly the entire column containing the face with red colour will be red.

(b) Now consider the cubes lying at the top of the blue column and red column. It can easily be seen that their top faces are red and blue respectively as the touching face will be green as shown before.



Now rotate the large cube so that the face lying at the top previously now faces you. Then by the argument of part (a) the entire column containing the square with the red face must be coloured red. As P is a part of the strip Y, the colour of Y is red.

(c) Assume that none of the faces of the larger cube has squares of the same colour. Then there exists a face where there are adjacent squares of different colour. Let us assume that they are red and blue. By the argument in part (a) and (b) of the problem we get a figure as shown below.



Then the surfaces marked S and T will be green. As all touching faces and opposite faces are of the same colour the face of the large cube lying parallel to S and T will be green. Similarly if we would



have started with the adjacent squares being red and green then we would have gotten a blue coloured face. In the remaining case of them being blue and green we would get a red face. So in any case we get a face with all 25 squares in it of the same colour.



# Mathematics Talent Reward Programme

## Question Paper for Junior Category

17<sup>th</sup> January, 2016

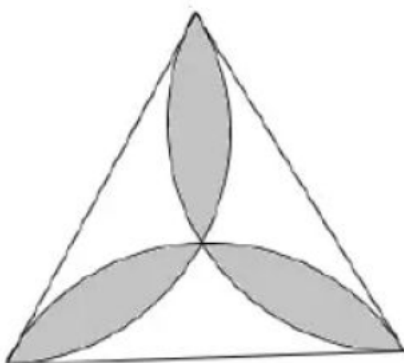
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### Multiple Choice Questions

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- Radius of a cone is increased by 10% and height of the same cone is decreased by 10%, then the volume of the cone has increased by  
 a) 8.3%,                      b) 8.6%,                      c) 8.9%,                      d) 9.1%.
- Consider an equilateral triangle of length  $\sqrt{6}$  as shown in the figure. Find the area of the shaded portion.



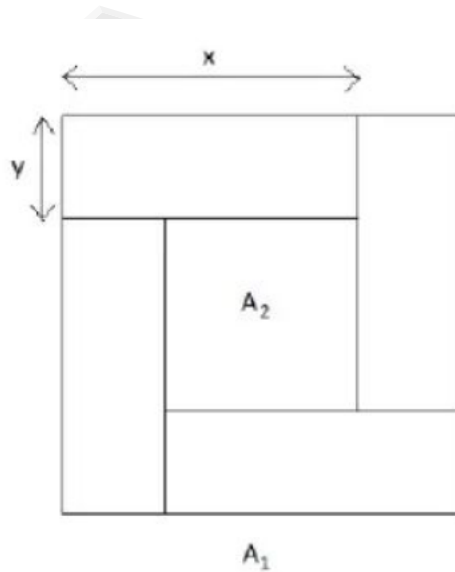
- a)  $\frac{3}{2}(2\pi - \sqrt{6})$ ,                      b)  $2\pi - 3\sqrt{3}$ ,                      c)  $\sqrt{6}\pi - \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$ ,                      d)  $\frac{3}{2}(3\pi - 2\sqrt{3})$ .
- Perimeter of a triangle with sides  $a, b$  and  $c$  is 2. Then the expression  $ab + bc + ca - abc - 1$  is  
 a) always positive                      b) always negative                      c) 0                      d) None of these
- $x, y$  are real numbers with  $x + y = 1$  and  $x^2 + y^2 = 2$ . Then the value of  $x^5 + y^5$  is given by  
 a)  $\frac{5}{2}$ ,                      b)  $\frac{17}{4}$ ,                      c)  $\frac{7}{2}$ ,                      d)  $\frac{3}{2}(3\pi - 2\sqrt{3})$ .
- A five digit number is called Flappy if product of its last two digits is 32 and sum of all five digits is 36. Suppose

$$x = \frac{\text{Number of Flappy numbers}}{\text{Number of Flappy numbers which are divisible by 36}}$$

Then  $x$  equals

- a) 1                      b) 3                      c) 2                      d) none of these
- You are given three bricks each measuring  $5'' \times 4.5'' \times 3''$ . How many different heights can you build up using all three of them?  
 a) 14                      b) 7                      c) 10                      d) 13

7. Let  $x_1 = 2016$ . For  $n > 1$  define  $x_n = \frac{n}{x_{n-1}}$ . Then  $x_1 x_2 \cdots x_{10} =$
- a) 2016                      b) 2280                      c) 3684                      d) None of these
8. Vessel  $A$  has liquids  $X$  and  $Y$  in the ratio  $X : Y = 8 : 7$ . Vessel  $B$  holds a mixture of  $X$  and  $Y$  in the ratio  $X : Y = 5 : 9$ . What ratio should you mix the liquids in both vessels if you need the mixture to be  $X : Y = 1 : 1$  ?
- a) 4:1                      b) 30:7                      c) 17:25                      d) 7:30
9. How many six digit perfect squares can be formed using all the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 as digits?
- a) 5                      b) 19                      c) 7                      d) None of these
10. 4 rectangles of same dimensions  $x \times y$  are arranged in the following manner as shown in figure. Let  $A_1$  be the area of the total square and  $A_2$  be the area of the smaller square. Suppose  $A_2 = \frac{1}{9}A_1$ . Then  $x : y$



- a) 3:1                      b) 2:1                      c) 7:2                      d) 5:2
11. Which of the following is true?
- a)  $2^{125} < 3^{75} < 5^{50}$ ,      b)  $3^{75} < 2^{125} < 5^{50}$ ,      c)  $5^{50} < 3^{75} < 2^{125}$ ,      d)  $2^{125} < 5^{50} < 3^{75}$ .
12. Let  $x$  be a positive real number. Then
- a)  $x^2 + \pi^2 + x^{2\pi} > x\pi + (x + \pi)x^\pi$ ,                      b)  $x^\pi + \pi^x > x^{2\pi} + \pi^{2x}$ ,  
c)  $x\pi + (x + \pi)x^\pi > x^2 + \pi^2 + x^{2\pi}$ ,                      d) None of these
13. Let  $P(x) = (x - 1)^{21} + (x - 1)^{20}(1 - x) + (x - 1)^{19}(1 - x)^2 + \cdots + (1 - x)^{21}$ . Then  $P(2016)$  equals to
- a) 0                      b)  $20^{2016}$ ,                      c) 2016                      d)  $2015^{20}$ .
14. We define an operation  $*$  as follows:  $a * b = \frac{a-b}{1-ab}$ . Then  $1 * (2 * (3 * \cdots (2015 * 2016))) \cdots =$
- a)  $2016 \times 2015 \times \cdots \times 1$ ,      b)  $\frac{1}{1-2016 \times 2015}$ ,                      c)  $\frac{2016}{2015}$ ,                      d) None of these

15. Let  $n$  be a two digit number such that

$$\text{sum of digits of } n + \text{product of digits of } n = n$$

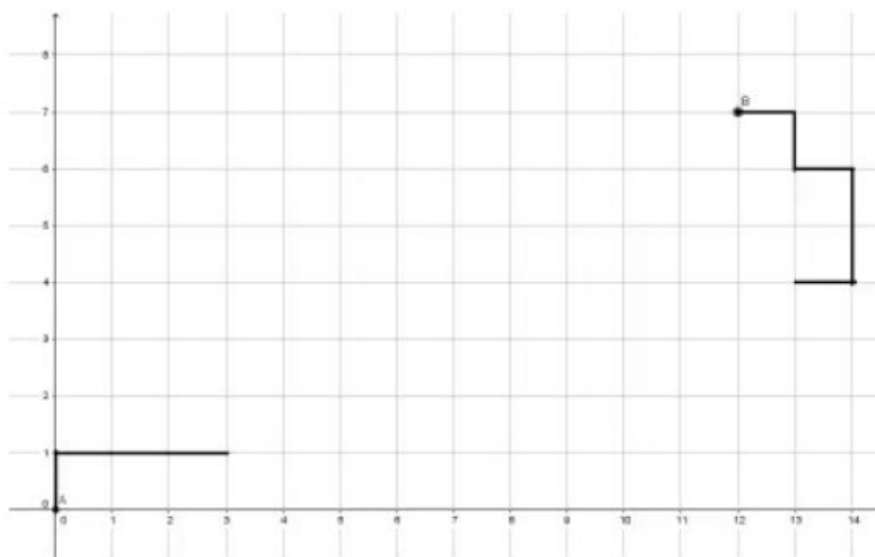
Then the unit digit of  $n$  is

- a) 1                      b) 9                      c) 7                      d) can't be determined

### Short Answer Type Questions

[Each question carries a total of 15 marks. Credit will be given to partially correct answers]

- Let  $ABC$  be a triangle with  $AB = AC$ . The bisector of  $\angle ACB$  meet  $AB$  at  $M$ . Suppose  $AM + MC = BC$ . Show that  $\angle BAC = 100^\circ$
- Two friends  $A$  and  $B$  are initially at points  $(0,0)$  and  $(12,7)$  respectively on the infinite grid plane (see figure).  $A$  takes steps of size 4 units and  $B$  takes steps of size 6 units along the grid lines. For example, a permissible step of  $A$  and  $B$  are shown in the figure [They are not necessarily the initial steps of  $A$  and  $B$ ]. Show that it is not possible for them to meet at a point.



- Mtrpia, a small country, has the following coins in circulation: 1 paise, 2 paise, 5 paise, 10 paise, 20 paise, 50 paise, and 1 rupee. Suppose it is known that you can pay  $A$  paise with  $B$  coins. Prove that you can pay  $B$  rupees with  $A$  coins. [Assume that there are infinitely many coins of each type.]
- Consider the following positive integers

$$a, a + d, a + 2d, a + 3d, \dots$$

Suppose there is a perfect square in the above list of numbers. Then prove that there are infinitely many perfect squares in the above list.

- 2016 coins are placed on a table with 50 heads up and remaining tails up. Suppose you are blindfolded and only thing you can do is flip the coins. Explain how you can separate the 2016 coins into two groups such that each group has equal number of heads.
- Find all positive integers  $x$  and  $y$  such that  $x, y, x + y$  and  $x - y$  all are primes.

*Use of calculators is not allowed. You may use a ruler and a compass for construction.*

*~ Best of Luck ~*

## Mathematics Talent Reward Programme

Model Solutions for Junior Category

### Multiple Choice Questions

[Each question has only one correct option. You will be awarded 4 marks for the correct answer, 1 mark if the question is not attempted and 0 marks for wrong answer.]

1. (C) [volume varies with square of radius and varies with height]
2. (B) [Let centroid of ABC be G, then required area =  $3 \times \text{area}(\text{arc}(ABG) - \Delta ABG)$ ]
3. (A) [Observe that the expression is square of area]
4. (B) [Observe that  $xy = -\frac{1}{2}$ , also see that  $a_n = x^n + y^n = (x+y)a_{n-1} - xy a_{n-2}$ ]
5. (A) [All the numbers end with 84 or 48, i.e. divisible by 4, also sum of digits divisible by 9]
6. (C) [Apply stars and bars theorem on which side is to be kept vertical]
7. (D) [Observe  $x_{2i}x_{2i-1} = 2i$ ]
8. (A) [Take two type in a:b ratio and solve a/b]
9. (D) [Sum of digits of numbers formed by these digits =  $21 \equiv 3 \pmod{9}$ , hence not perfect square]
10. (B) [ $(x+y)^2 : (x+y)^2 - 4xy = 9 : 1$ ]
11. (C) [Take log]
12. (A) [ $(x-\pi)^2 - (x-x^\pi)(x^\pi - \pi) = a^2 + b^2 + ab$ , where  $a = x - x^\pi, b = x^\pi - \pi$ ]
13. (A) [ $P(x)=0 \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ ]
14. (D) [Observe  $1*(2*(\dots*(n))) \dots = 1$ ]
15. (B) [ $10a + b = ab + a + b$ , i.e.  $b = 9$ ]

### Short Answer Type Questions

[Each question carries a total of 15 marks. Credit will be given to partially correct answers]

1. Let  $D$  be a point on  $BC$  such that  $CM = CD$ . Then we have

$$AM + MC = BC = BD + CD = BD + CM \implies AM = BD$$

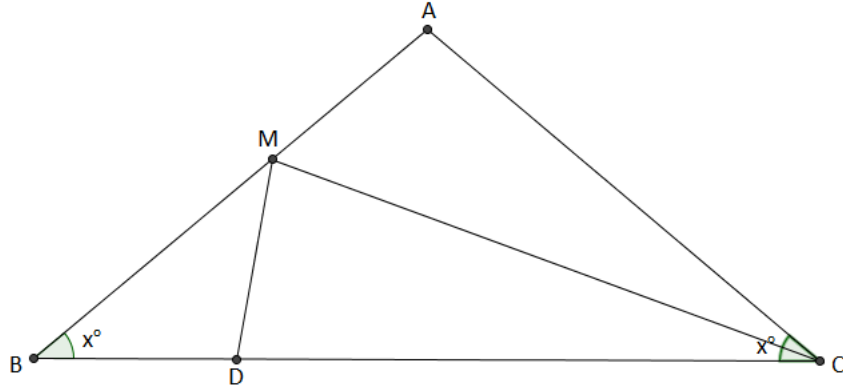
Now consider the triangles  $\triangle BMD$  and  $\triangle ABC$ . We have  $\angle MBD = \angle ACB$  and since  $CM$  is a bisector of  $\angle ACB$ , we have

$$\frac{AC}{BC} = \frac{AM}{BM} = \frac{BD}{BM}$$

Thus  $\triangle BMD \sim \triangle ABC$ . Let  $\angle ABC = \angle ACB = x$ . Then  $\angle BMD = x$ . Thus  $\angle MDC = \angle BMD + \angle MBD = 2x$ . Note that  $CM = CD \implies \angle DMC = 2x$ . Hence if we consider the angles of triangle  $\triangle CMD$  we have

$$2x + 2x + \frac{x}{2} = 180^\circ \implies x = 40^\circ$$

This implies  $\angle BAC = 180^\circ - 2 \times 40^\circ = 100^\circ$ .



2. Consider the parity on the sum of the co-ordinates of postions of A and B separately and note that for each step ( 4 for A, 6 for B), the parity of the sum of the co-ordinates does not change. Hence A having sum of the co-ordinates 0 (even) initially and B having sum of the co-ordinates 19 (odd) initially can never meet.
3. Let  $x_i$  be the number of coins of  $i$ -th type used for paying  $A$  paise. Then we have

$$x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_7 = B, \quad x_1 + 2x_2 + 5x_3 + \cdots + 100x_7 = A$$

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned} 100B &= 100x_1 + 100x_2 + \cdots + 100x_7 \\ &= 100 \times x_1 + 50 \times 2x_2 + 20 \times 5x_3 + \cdots 1 \times 100x_7 \end{aligned}$$

Now if we define  $y_1 = x_1, y_2 = 2x_2, y_3 = 5x_3, \dots, y_7 = 100x_7$  we have

$$y_1 + y_2 + \cdots + y_7 = A, \quad 100y_1 + 50y_2 + 20y_3 + \cdots + y_7 = 100B$$

Thus if we use  $y_7$  1 rupee coins,  $y_6$  2 paise coins,  $y_5$  5 paise coins,  $\dots, y_1$  100 paise coins, we can pay  $B$  rupees using  $A$  coins.

4. Suppose there is a square  $x^2$  in that list. Observe that

$$(x + d)^2 = x^2 + 2xd + d^2 = x^2 + (2x + d)d$$

is of the form  $x^2 + kd$  which must be in that list. Thus considering  $x^2, (x + d)^2, (x + 2d)^2 \dots$  we get a list of infinite perfect squares which is a sublist of the original list.

5. Take any 50 coins from 2016 coins to form heap A. The remaining 1966 coins form heap B say. Suppose there are  $x$  coins in heap A with heads facing up and hence there are  $50 - x$  coins in heap A with tails facing up. If we flip all the coins of heap A, then we will get  $50 - x$  coins of A with heads facing up. Note that there are  $50 - x$  coins in heap B with heads facing up. This completes the proof.
6. Since  $x - y$  is a prime,  $x - y > 0 \implies x > y$ . Suppose both  $x, y \geq 3$ , then  $x + y$  becomes even and hence not a prime. So one of them must be 2. Hence  $y = 2$  and  $x \geq 3$ . So we have  $x - 2, x, x + 2$  as primes. Consider three cases:

Case 1:  $x = 3k + 1$  where  $k \geq 1$ , then  $x + 2 = 3k + 3 = 3(k + 1)$  which is certainly not a prime.

Case 2:  $x = 3k + 2$  where  $k \geq 1$ , then  $x - 2 = 3k$  which is prime only if  $k = 1$ . This forces  $x = 5$ . A simple checking shows that this is indeed a solution.

Case 3 :  $x = 3k$  where  $k \geq 1$ , then  $k = 1$ , which forces  $x - y = 1$ , not a prime.

Thus  $x = 5, y = 2$  is the only solution.



# Mathematics Talent Reward Programme

## Question Paper for Junior Category

15<sup>th</sup> January, 2017

Total Marks: 102

Allotted Time: 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Multiple Choice Questions

*[You should answer these questions in the first page according to the order given in the question. Each question has only one correct option. You will be awarded 4 marks for the correct answer, 1 mark if the question is not attempted and 0 marks for wrong answer.]*

- The number of ordered pairs  $(a, b)$  of natural numbers such that  $a^b + b^a = 100$  is  
a) 1                                      b) 2                                      c) 3                                      d) 4
- $ABCD$  be a rectangle.  $E$  and  $F$  are the midpoints of  $BC$  and  $CD$  respectively. The area of  $\triangle AEF$  is 3 sq units. The area of rectangle  $ABCD$  is  
a) 4                                      b) 6                                      c) 8                                      d) 16
- Suppose  $a, b, c$  are three distinct integers from 2 to 10 (both inclusive). Exactly one of  $ab, bc$  and  $ca$  is odd and  $abc$  is a multiple of 4. The arithmetic mean of  $a$  and  $b$  is an integer and so is the arithmetic mean of  $a, b$  and  $c$ . How many such (unordered) triplets are possible?  
a) 4                                      b) 5                                      c) 6                                      d) 7
- $PQRS$  is a rectangle in which  $PQ = 2016PS$ .  $T$  and  $U$  are the midpoints of  $PS$  and  $PQ$  respectively.  $QT$  and  $US$  intersect at  $V$ . Suppose

$$R = \frac{\text{Area of triangle PQT}}{\text{Area of quadrilateral QRSV}}$$

$R =$

a)  $\frac{5}{12}$                                       b)  $\frac{2016}{2017}$                                       c)  $\frac{2}{7}$                                       d)  $\frac{3}{8}$

- For any three real numbers  $a, b$ , and  $c$ , with  $b \neq c$ , the operation  $\otimes$  is defined by:

$$\otimes(a, b, c) = \frac{a}{b - c}$$

What is  $\otimes(\otimes(1, 2, 3), \otimes(2, 3, 1), \otimes(3, 1, 2))$  ?

- a)  $-\frac{1}{2}$                                       b)  $-\frac{1}{4}$                                       c)  $\frac{1}{2}$                                       d)  $\frac{1}{4}$
- A company sells peanut butter in cylindrical jars. Marketing research suggests that using wider jars will increase sales. If the diameter of the jars is increased by 25% without altering the volume, by what percent must the height be decreased?  
a) 10%,                                      b) 25%                                      c) 36%                                      d) 64%
  - Let

$$V_1 = \frac{7^2 + 8^2 + 15^2 + 23^2}{4} - \left( \frac{7 + 8 + 15 + 23}{4} \right)^2$$

$$V_2 = \frac{6^2 + 8^2 + 15^2 + 24^2}{4} - \left( \frac{6 + 8 + 15 + 24}{4} \right)^2$$

$$V_3 = \frac{5^2 + 8^2 + 15^2 + 25^2}{4} - \left( \frac{5 + 8 + 15 + 25}{4} \right)^2$$

Then

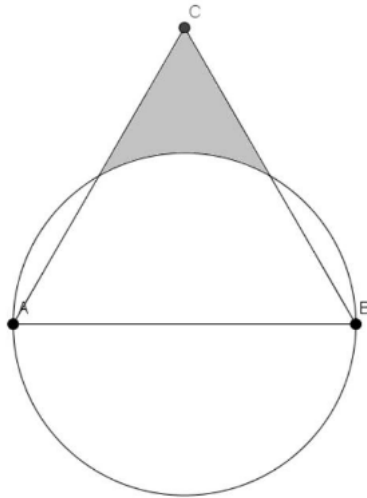


- a)  $V_3 < V_2 < V_1$ ,      b)  $V_3 < V_1 < V_2$ ,      c)  $V_1 < V_2 < V_3$       d)  $V_2 < V_3 < V_1$ .
8. How many natural numbers, less than 2017, are divisible by 3 but not by 5 ?
- a) 548      b) 538      c) 528      d) None of these
9. Consider 3 numbers, 4, 6 and 10. In 1st step we choose any  $a, b$  from the 3 numbers and replace them with  $\frac{3a-4b}{5}$  and  $\frac{4a+3b}{5}$  to get a new triplet of numbers and again perform the operation on new triplet and so on. How many distinct ways are there to obtain 4, 6 and 12 as a triplet for the first time?
- a) 3      b) 5      c) 7      d) None of these
10. Let  $a$  and  $b$  be relatively prime integers with  $a > b > 0$  and  $\frac{a^3-b^3}{(a-b)^3} = \frac{73}{3}$ . What is  $a - b$  ?
- a) 1      b) 3      c) 9      d) 27

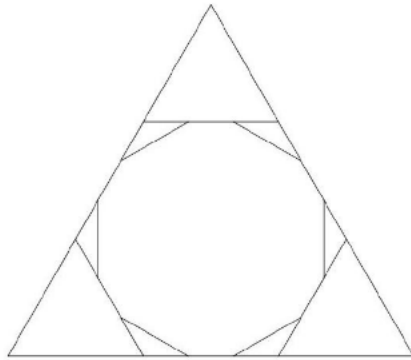
### Short Answer Type Questions

[Each question carries a total of 12 marks. Credit will be given to partially correct answers]

1. Let  $ABC$  be an equilateral triangle constructed on the diameter  $AB$  of circle of radius 1 as a side. Find the area of the shaded portion with justification.



2. There are 30 balls in a box. You have to write one number in each ball. However the only numbers you are allowed to write are 0, 1 or 4. Let  $X$  be the number obtained by adding all the numbers on the balls. Find all possible values of  $X$  with justification.
3. Find all primes  $p$  and  $q$  such that  $p + q = (p - q)^3$ . Justify your answer.
4. The natural number  $y$  is obtained from the number  $x$  by rearranging its digits. Suppose  $x + y = 10^{200}$ . Prove that  $x$  is divisible by 10.
5. Consider an equilateral triangle of area 1. We call the triangle  $P_0$ . We find the trisecting points of each side of  $P_0$  and cutoff the corners to form a new polygon (in fact a hexagon) say  $P_1$  as shown in figure. We again trisect each side of the hexagon and cutoff the corners to form polygon  $P_2$ , with 12 sides, as shown in the figure. Find the area of  $P_2$ .



6. The numbers 1, 3, 5, 7, 2, 4, 6, 8 are written in a row on a blackboard (in the given order). Two players A and B play the following game by making moves. In each move, a player picks two consecutive numbers written in the board, say  $a$  and  $b$ , and replace it by  $a + b$  or  $a - b$  or  $a \times b$ . Note that after each move there is one less number on the blackboard. Suppose player A makes the first move. The first player wins if the final result after 7 moves is odd, and loses otherwise. Show that no matter what player 1 does, player 2 can always win i.e., player 2 has a winning strategy.

## Mathematics Talent Reward Programme

Model Solutions for Junior Category

### Multiple Choice Questions

[Each question has only one correct option. You will be awarded 4 marks for the correct answer, 1 mark if the question is not attempted and 0 marks for wrong answer.]

1. (D) [Assume  $b \geq a \implies 2a^a \leq 50$ , only possible values for  $a$  is 1, 2]
2. (C) [Let  $a, b$  be the sides of rectangle. Now find the area of three right angled triangles in terms of  $a, b$ ]
3. (A) [Notice that exactly 2 of  $a, b, c$  are odd and  $4|c \implies c = 4, 8$ .]
4. (D) [Consider  $P$  as  $(0, 0)$  and  $PQ, PS$  as  $X, Y$  axis respectively. Find the coordinate of  $V$ ]
5. (B)
6. (C) [Compute volume in both condition and then equate]
7. (C) [Note in each case only 2 no's are changed and the value of the later part which is subtracted is same for  $V_1, V_2, V_3$ ]
8. (B) [No. of natural numbers less than 2017 that are divisible by  $k = \lfloor \frac{2017}{k} \rfloor$ ]
9. (D) [Note that  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2$  is invariant i.e. remains same in all step.]
10. (B) [Note  $3 \cdot 73ab = 70(a^2 + b^2 + ab)$  and  $a, b$  are relatively prime  $\implies ab | 70$  and  $70 | ab$ ]

### Short Answer Type Questions

[Each question carries a total of 15 marks. Credit will be given to partially correct answers]

1. let us draw the center  $O$  and join  $OD$  and  $OE$  as shown in figure. Area  $ABC = \sqrt{3}$  Note that  $OD = OA$  as they are radii of the same circle and  $\angle DAO = 60^\circ$  Hence  $OAD$  is equilateral triangle with side length 1. Hence Area  $DAO = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}$ . Similarly Area  $EBO = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}$ . Note  $\angle DOE = 60^\circ$ . Hence the area of sector  $DOE$  is  $\frac{\pi}{6}$ . So the area of the shaded region is  $\sqrt{3} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - \frac{\pi}{6} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - \frac{\pi}{6}$ .
2. We denote the triplet  $(x, y, z)$  to denote that there are  $x$  number of four-balls  $y$  number of oneballs and  $z$  number of zero-balls. We first show that  $X$  can take any integer value from 0 to 111. Take any number from 0 to 111 say  $t$ . We write it as  $t = 4q + r$  where  $r = 0, 1, 2, 3$ . Note that if  $(q, r, 30 - q - r)$  is observed,  $X$  can indeed achieve  $t$ . We just have to ensure  $q, r, 30 - q - r$  are all non-negative numbers. Note that  $r \leq 3$  and since  $t \leq 111$ , it implies  $q \leq 27$ . Thus  $30 - q - r \geq 0$ . Hence  $X$  can take any integer value from 0 to 111. Note that any multiple of 4 say  $4q$ , less than or equal to 120, is possible if  $(q, 0, 30 - q)$  observed. We note that  $X = 113$  corresponds to  $(28, 1, 1)$ ,  $X = 114$  to  $(28, 2, 0)$  and  $X = 117$  to  $(29, 1, 0)$ .

We will now show that  $X$  cannot take values 115, 118, 119. If  $X = 115$  corresponds to  $(x, y, z)$ , then  $x + y + z = 30$  and  $115 = 4x + y \leq 4x + y + z = 3x + 30$  which implies  $3x \geq 85 \implies x \geq 29$  as  $x$  is an integer, but then  $4x + y \geq 4x \geq 116$ , so  $X = 115$  is not possible. Similarly if  $X \geq 118$ ,

$$118 \leq X = 4x + y \leq 3x + 30 \implies 3x \geq 88 \implies x \geq 30$$

Hence it forces  $X = 120$ . Hence  $X$  can take any integer values between 0 to 120 except 115, 118 and 119.

3. Suppose  $p, q$  leaves same remainder when divided by 3. Then  $p - q$  is divisible by 3. But  $p + q$  is not divisible by 3 unless both  $p, q$  are divisible by 3 which forces  $p = q = 3$  (as they are primes). This clearly does not gives us a solution. Thus  $p, q$  leaves different remainders when divisible by 3. If both are not 3, then one of them leaves remainder 1 and the other leaves 2 when divided by 3. Then  $p + q$  is divisible by 3 but  $p - q$  does not. Hence no solution is possible. This forces that one of them must be 3. Clearly  $p = 3$  implies  $q < 3$  as  $(3 - q)^3 = 3 + q > 0$ . But this forces  $q = 2$  which does not satisfies the equation. Hence  $q = 3$ . Thus the equation becomes

$$p + 3 = (p - 3)^3 = p^3 - 9p^2 + 27p - 27 \implies p(p^2 - 9p + 26) = 30$$

Hence  $p$  must divides 30. The only possibility is  $p = 5$ . On checking we see that  $p = 5, q = 3$  indeed satisfies the equation.

4. Note  $10^{200}$  has 201 digits. Then  $x$  must have atmost 200 digits. If  $x$  has 199 digits then  $y$  have atmost 199 digits. Hence their sum cannot be a 201 digit number. Thus  $x$  has exactly 200 digits. Let  $x_1x_2\cdots x_{200}$  be the decimal representation of  $x$  and  $y_1y_2\cdots y_{200}$  be the decimal representation of  $y$ . Suppose  $x$  is not divisible by 10. Then  $x_{200} \neq 0$ . Thus  $y_{200} = 10 - x_{200}$ . Thus on adding the unit digits we carry 1 to the ten's digit. Thus  $x_{199} + y_{199}$  must be 9. Again we carry 1 to the next digit and so on. Thus we arrive that  $x_i + y_i = 9$  for all  $i < 200$  and  $x_{200} + y_{200} = 10$ . Hence

$$x_1 + x_2 + \cdots + x_{200} + y_1 + y_2 + \cdots + y_{200} = 9 \times 199 + 10 = \text{odd}$$

But  $y$  is just a rearrangement of  $x$ . Hence sum of digits of  $x$  plus sum of digits of  $y$  must be even. This gives us a contradiction. Hence  $x$  is divisible by 10.

5. We label some of the points of figure as shown below. We join the diagonal of  $FE$  of the hexagon  $P_1$ . Observe that  $AE : AC = 1 : 3$  and  $AD : AB = 1 : 3$  and hence  $DE \parallel BC$ . Thus  $\triangle ADE$  and  $\triangle ABC$  are similar. Hence by properties of similar triangles  $\text{Area } ADE : \text{Area } ABC = 1 : 9$ . Hence  $\text{Area } ADE = \frac{1}{9}$ . Similarly area of other similar 'corners' are  $\frac{1}{9}$ . Hence area of hexagon is  $1 - \frac{3}{9} = \frac{2}{3}$ . We now focus on the corners inside the hexagon. Note that  $DG : DF = 1 : 3$  and  $DH : DE = 1 : 3$  and hence  $GH \parallel FE$ . Thus  $\triangle DGH$  and  $\triangle DFE$  are similar. Hence by properties of similar triangles  $\text{Area } DGH : \text{Area } DFE = 1 : 9$ . Again  $DE$  is the median of triangle  $AEF$ . Hence  $\text{Area } DFE = \text{Area } ADE = \frac{1}{9}$ . Thus  $\text{Area } DGH = \frac{1}{81}$ . Similarly area of other 5 small corners are  $\frac{1}{81}$ . Hence Area of  $P_2$  equals  $\frac{2}{3} - \frac{6}{81} = \frac{2}{3} - \frac{2}{27} = \frac{16}{27}$ .

6. Only the fact that whether the numbers are odd (O) or even (E) is important for the problem. Note that at any stage if all the numbers are even, player 1 can never win. Player 2 target would be to leave two even number after penultimate move. Suppose we start with  $OOEE$  sequence on board. If player 1 has any hope to win, he must not convert the odds into even. Hence the possible sequence after player 1 move is  $OEE$  or  $OEE$ , then on adding first two terms or multiplying first two terms player 2 wins.

For the general  $OOOOEEEE$  problem, we will try to reach  $OEEE$  or  $EEEE$ . For this 8string, we either (i) try to maintain the initial symmetry of odds and evens or (ii) reduce the number of odds but keeping them separated from even numbers. If in any step player 1 chooses 2 evens to modify, no of odds remain same, even numbers decreases by 1. Then player 2 can take 2 odd numbers and multiply them and reach case (i). Similar steps can be taken if player 1 takes 2 odds and multiplies them. If player 1 takes 2 odd numbers and get an even then two case can occur:

- There is an even number adjacent to the one player 1 got in the step; take two evens and do any operation
- There is an odd number adjacent to it, then the string has  $EO$  in it. Transform it to  $O$  It's easy to see this converts the previous string to strings mentioned in (i) and (ii),

Finally in the case player 1 chooses  $OE$  : (a)  $OE \rightarrow E$  : We take two even and transform it to even  
(b)  $OE \rightarrow O$  : We take two odd and transform them to odd.

# Mathematics Talent Reward Programme

## Question Paper for Junior Category

14<sup>th</sup> January, 2018

Total Marks: 100

Allotted Time: 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Multiple Choice Questions

*[You should answer these questions in the first page according to the order given in the question. Each question has only one correct option. You will be awarded 4 marks for the correct answer, 1 mark if the question is not attempted and 0 marks for wrong answer.]*

- The number of solutions of the equation  $\frac{5}{2-x} + \frac{x-5}{x+2} + \frac{3x+8}{x^2-4} = 0$  is
  - 2
  - 1
  - 0
  - None of these
- How many triangles  $ABC$  are there such that  $\angle A = 60^\circ$ ,  $AB = 3$  cm and  $BC = 2$  cm ?
  - 1
  - 2
  - 6
  - None of these
- Let  $3 \mid a^2 + a + 1$ , where  $a$  is an integer. Which of the following is false ?
  - $3 \mid a^2 - 1$ ,
  - $3$  does not divide  $a + 1$ ,
  - $a^3 + 2$  is not divisible by 3 ,
  - None of these
- Which of the following is true?
  - Last digit of  $18^{19}$  is prime,
  - Last digit of  $17^7$  is 7
  - Last digit of  $17^9$  is not 7
  - None of these
- How many ordered pairs  $(a, b)$  of rational numbers are there such that  $\frac{a}{b} + \frac{b}{a} = 3$  ?
  - 1
  - 2
  - Infinitely many
  - None of these
- Let  $ABC$  be an isosceles triangle with  $AB = BC$  and  $\angle B = 20^\circ$ . Then which of the following is true ?
  - $AB > 3AC$ ,
  - $2AC < AB < 3AC$ ,
  - $AC < AB < 2AC$ ,
  - None of these
- What is the product of the real roots of the equation  $x^2 + 18x + 30 = 2\sqrt{x^2 + 18x + 45}$  ?
  - 40
  - 20
  - $\sqrt{30}$
  - None of these

### Short Answer Type Questions

*[Each question carries a total of 12 marks. Credits will be given to partially correct answers]*

- Let  $ABCD$  be a parallelogram. Let  $E$  be the midpoint of  $CD$ . Let  $O$  be the intersecting point of the lines  $AE$  and  $BD$ . Find  $AO : OE$ .
- How many ordered triplets of integers  $(a, b, c)$  are there such that  $a^3bc = 24$  ?
- There are 5 pairs of balls which are kept in 5 different boxes (i.e. each box has 2 identical balls). In one of the boxes both the balls weigh 9g each. In the remaining 4 boxes all balls weigh 8g each. You have a weighing machine with 2 pans. If you put some balls on the left pan and some on the right, its reading will show you the (value of the weight on the left pan - value of weight on the right pan). Find the minimum number of times the weighing machine needs to be used in order to identify the balls which are heavier.

4. How many natural numbers are there such that the sum of the digits of the number equals the product of the digits of the number in its decimal representation? (Note that the sum and product of a single digit number is the number itself.)
5. Prove that there exist infinitely many perfect squares starting with the digits " 2018 ".
6. Prove that there do not exist 2 natural numbers  $n_1, n_2$  such that  $9^{n_1}$  and  $9^{n_2}$  are palindrome numbers and the difference in the number of digits of  $9^{n_1}$  and  $9^{n_2}$  is 2017. (Note: A palindromic number is a number that remains the same when its digits are reversed, for example 313, 121, 2332 are palindrome numbers.)

*Use of calculators is not allowed. You may use a ruler and a compass for construction.*  
*~ Best of Luck ~*



## Mathematics Talent Reward Programme

Model Solutions for Junior Category

### Multiple Choice Questions

[Each question has only one correct option. You will be awarded 4 marks for the correct answer, 1 mark if the question is not attempted and 0 marks for wrong answer.]

1. (A)
2. (D)[Recall the cosine rule]
3. (C)[Note that  $3 \nmid a$ ]
4. (C)[Last digit of  $17^{19}$  = Last digit of  $7^{19}$  and so on]
5. (D)[Take  $x = \frac{a}{b}$ , then  $x$  is irrational]
6. (B)[Recall sin rule]
7. (B)[Take  $a = x^2 + 18x$ ]

### Short Answer Type Questions

[Each question carries a total of 12 marks. Credit will be given to partially correct answers]

1. Consider the triangles  $\triangle DOE$  and  $\triangle BOA$ . We have that  $\angle EDO = \angle OBA$ ,  $\angle DEO = \angle OAB$  and  $\angle DOE = \angle AOB$ . Hence, we can say that  $\triangle DOE \sim \triangle BOA$  (AAA criterion of similarity). Hence we have

$$\frac{EO}{AO} = \frac{DE}{AB} = \frac{1}{2}$$

2. 24 may be factored as,

$$24 = 2^3 \cdot 3$$

Possible choices of  $a$  are 1, 2.

For  $a = 2$ ,  $bc = 3$ . Since 3 isn't a perfect square, number of  $(b, c)$  tuples is the number of divisors of 3, that is,  $(1 + 1) = 2$  (Obtained from the prime factorisation of  $3 = 3^1$ )

For  $a = 1$ ,  $bc = 24$ . Number of tuples =  $(3 + 1) \cdot (1 + 1) = 8$  ( $24 = 2^3 \cdot 3$ )

Number of possible ordered triplets of positive integers =  $2 + 8 = 10$

Now, changing the sign of any two keeps the product same. We have  $\binom{3}{2} = 3$  ways of changing the sign of two positive integers in an ordered triplet.

So, number of ordered possible triplets of integers =  $10 \cdot (3 + 1) = 10 \cdot 4 = \boxed{40}$

3. The minimum number of times the weighing machine needs to be used is  $\boxed{2}$ .

At first, we pick a ball from each of the boxes.

In the first step, we weigh any two of these balls. If they weigh the same, we omit these and proceed to the second step. Else, the heavier one weighs 9g.

For the second step, we weigh any two of the remaining three weighs 9g. Else, the heavier one between the two weighs 9g.

4. There are infinitely many such integers. The main fact that we use is if there are 1's in the decimal representation of a number, then they do not alter the product of the digits but increase the sum of the digits. We give an explicit construction of an infinite set of numbers which have the product of digits equal to the sum of digits. Note that the numbers stated below aren't all such numbers with the aforesaid property.

Define

$$I_k = \underbrace{222 \dots 2}_{k \text{ many } 2\text{'s}} \underbrace{111 \dots 1}_{2 \text{ many } 1\text{'s}} - 2$$

Check that all  $I_k$  for  $k \geq 3$  satisfies the required property.

5. For a perfect square to start with 2018, it has to satisfy the following :

$$2018 \cdot 10^k \leq n^2 \leq 2019 \cdot 10^k$$

for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

We may restrict  $k$  to be even for convenience, and obtain:

$$2018 \cdot 10^{2k} \leq n^2 \leq 2019 \cdot 10^{2k}, k \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$\implies \sqrt{2018} \cdot 10^k \leq n \leq \sqrt{2019} \cdot 10^k$$

$$\sqrt{2019} - \sqrt{2018} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2019} + \sqrt{2018}} \geq \frac{1}{45 + 45} = \frac{1}{90}$$

So, for  $k \geq 2$ ,  $(\sqrt{2019} - \sqrt{2018}) 10^k > 1$  and thus, there exists a perfect square between  $2018 \cdot 10^{2k}$  and  $2019 \cdot 10^{2k}$  for all  $k \geq 2$ , implying that there are infinitely many such perfect squares.

6. Since the difference between the number of digits is 2017, one of them has to have an even number of digits.

Now, for a palindrome having  $2k$  number of digits,

$$N = \sum_{i=0}^{2k-1} 10^i a_i = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} (10^i + 10^{2k-1-i}) a_i$$

Since  $2k - 1$  is odd, for any  $i, 0 \leq i \leq k - 1, i \neq 2k - 1 - i$  and so, the term with parentheses is a multiple of 11, impossible for a power of 9. Hence, we conclude that there are no two such natural numbers.