

IB Pre HL More Practice for Polynomials

Name: key

1. Factorize  $x^3 + 2x^2 - x - 2$  into its linear factors.

Step 1: List all possible roots.  $\pm 1, \pm 2$

Step 2: Guess can check to find the first real root.

$$p(1) = 1 + 2 - 1 - 2 = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{x=1}$$

Step 3: Do synthetic division and/or factor and/or use Quadratic formula

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr}
 1 & 1 & 2 & -1 & -2 \\
 & \downarrow & & & \\
 & 1 & 3 & 2 & 0
 \end{array}
 \Rightarrow x^2 + 3x + 2 = (x+2)(x+1)$$

$\boxed{x=-1}, \boxed{x=-2} \leftarrow \text{other roots}$

2. Factorize over rational numbers of

a)  $4x^4 - 13x^2 + 9$

b)  $x^4 - 2x^2 - 3$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 4x^2 \quad -9 \\
 x^2 \quad -1 \quad -9-4 = -13
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 (x^2 - 3)(x^2 + 1) \\
 (x + \sqrt{3})(x - \sqrt{3})(x^2 + 1)
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 (4x^2 - 9)(x^2 - 1) \\
 = (2x+3)(2x-3)(x+1)(x-1)
 \end{array}$$

3. When  $x^3 + ax^2 + bx + 3$  is divided by  $x-2$  and  $x-4$ , the remainders are  $-3$  and  $15$  respectively. Find  $a$  and  $b$ .

$= f(x)$

$$f(2) = -3 \Rightarrow 2^3 + 4a + 2b + 3 = -3 \Rightarrow 4a + 2b = -14$$

$$f(4) = 15 \Rightarrow 4^3 + 16a + 4b + 3 = 15 \Rightarrow 16a + 4b = -52 \Rightarrow 4a + b = -13$$

Solve the system

$$\begin{array}{l}
 2a + b = -7 \\
 4a + b = -13 \\
 \hline
 2a = -6 \\
 a = -3 \\
 b = -1
 \end{array}$$

4. If  $x-2$  is a factor of  $p(x) = 4x^3 + kx - 2$ , find the value of  $k$ . Hence factorize  $p(x)$  fully.

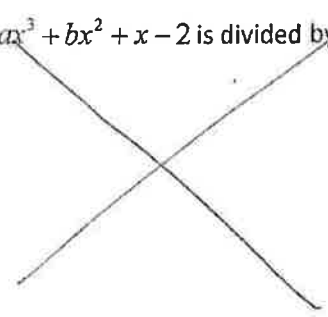
$$p(2) = 4(2)^3 + (2)(k) - 2 = 0$$

$$2k = -30$$

$$\boxed{k = -15}$$

$$p(x) = (x-2)(2x-2-\sqrt{3})(2x-2+\sqrt{3})$$

5. When  $p(x) = ax^3 + bx^2 + x - 2$  is divided by  $x-1$ , it has a remainder of  $6$ . Given that  $x+1$  is a factor of  $p(x)$ , find all roots of  $p(x)$ .



**Even More Practice : No Calculators!!**

1. Find a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree polynomial with zeros  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $2-i$ . [3]

$$P(x) = (2x-1)(x-(2-i))(x-(2+i)) = (2x-1)(x^2-4x+5) = 2x^3 - 8x^2 + 10x - x^2 + 4x - 5 = 2x^3 - 9x^2 + 14x - 5$$

2.  $(x-3)$  is a factor of  $x^3 + x^2 - kx + 15$ . Find the value of  $k$ . [3]

$x=3$

$$P(x) = x^3 + x^2 - kx + 15$$

$$P(3) = (3)^3 + (3)^2 - k(3) + 15 = 0$$

$$-3k = -51 \quad k = \frac{51}{-3} = +17$$

3. Find the quotient and remainder.

$$\frac{3x^3 - 6x^2 + 4}{x^2 + 2x + 3}$$

$$= (3x - 9) + \frac{9x + 31}{x^2 + 2x + 3}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3x - 12 \in Q(x) \\ \underline{3x^3 - 6x^2 + 0x + 4} \\ 3x^3 + 6x^2 + 9x \\ \underline{-9x^2 - 9x + 4} \\ -9x^2 - 18x - 27 \\ \underline{9x^2 + 9x + 27} \\ 15x + 40 \in R(x) \end{array}$$

4. Use synthetic division, and hence write the division in the form  $P(x) = Q(x)D(x) + R(x)$ .

$$\frac{9x^4 + 3x^3 + 13x^2 - 2x - 13}{x+2}$$

$$P(x) = 9x^4 + 3x^3 + 13x^2 - 2x - 13$$

$$= (9x^3 - 15x^2 + 43x - 88)(x+2) + 163$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrrr} -2 & 9 & 3 & 13 & -2 & -13 \\ & \downarrow & -18 & 30 & -86 & 176 \\ \hline & 9x^3 & -15x^2 & 43x & -88 & 163 \end{array}$$

5. The equation  $x^3 + x^2 + ax - 4 = 0$  has one root equal to  $-2$ . Find the values of  $a$  and the remaining root.

$$P(x) = x^3 + x^2 + ax - 4$$

$$P(-2) = (-2)^3 + (-2)^2 - 2a - 4 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -8 + 4 - 2a - 4 = 0$$

Remaining Root?

$$-2a = 8$$

$$a = -4$$

Roots:  $-1, 2$ .

6. The equation  $2x^3 + ax^2 + bx + 9 = 0$  has one repeated root equal to 3. Find the values of  $a$  and  $b$  and the remaining root.

Three roots:  $x_1 = 3, x_2 = 3, x_3 = C$

$$2x^3 + ax^2 + bx + 9 = 2(x-3)^2(x-x_3) = 2(x^2 - 6x + 9)(x-C) = (2x^2 - 12x + 18)(x-C) = 2x^3 - 2Cx^2 - 12x^2 - 12Cx + 18x - 18C$$

$$2x^3 + ax^2 + bx + 9 = 2x^3(2c - 12)x^2 + (-12c + 18)x - 18c$$

$$9 = -18c \Rightarrow c = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$a = (-2c - 12) \Rightarrow a = -11$$

$$b = (-12c + 18) \Rightarrow b = (-12)(-\frac{1}{2}) + 18$$

$$= 24 + 18$$

$$b = 12$$