

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE  
**Mathematics: analysis and approaches**  
**Math AA**

**EXERCISES [Math-AA 2.15]**  
**MODULUS EQUATIONS AND INEQUALITIES**  
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**O. Practice questions**

1. [Maximum mark: 15] **[without GDC]**

(a) Solve the following equations and inequalities [using the definition of  $|x|$ ] [9]

$ x  = 3$	
$ x  < 3$	
$ x  > 3$	
$ x  = -3$	
$ x  < -3$	
$ x  > -3$	
$ x  = 0$	
$ x  < 0$	
$ x  > 0$	

(b) Solve the following equation and inequalities [6]

$2 x  - 3 = 0$	
$2 x  - 3 < 0$	
$2 x  - 3 > 0$	

2. [Maximum mark: 8] **[without GDC]**

(a) Solve the equation  $|x-5|=3$ . [3]

(b) Solve the inequalities (i)  $|x-5|<3$  (ii)  $|x-5|>3$  [5]

**METHOD A:** using the definition of  $|x|$

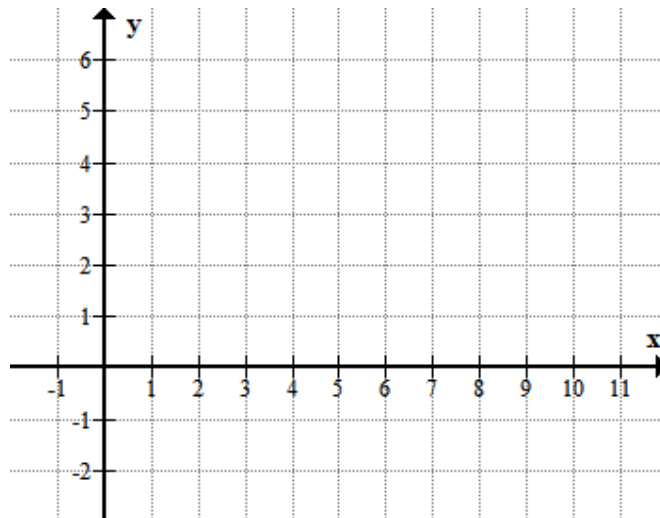
**METHOD B:** by squaring both sides (since both sides are positive)

3. [Maximum mark: 7] **[with GDC]**

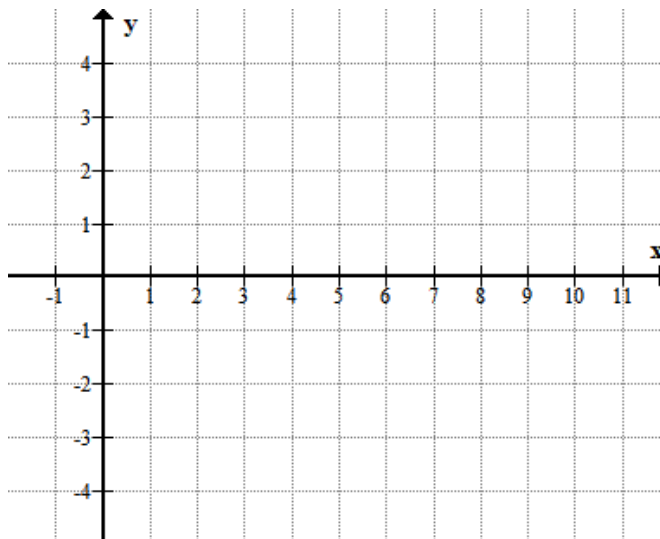
(a) (Using SolveN or the graph mode on your GDC), solve the equation  $|x-5|=3$ . [2]

(b) (Using the graph mode, solve the inequalities (i)  $|x-5|<3$  (ii)  $|x-5|>3$  [4]

**METHOD A:** Draw the graphs of  $y_1=|x-5|$  and  $y_2=3$



**METHOD B:** Draw the graph of  $y=|x-5|-3$



4. [Maximum mark: 8] **[with / without GDC]**

(a) Solve the equation  $|x - 5| = |x - 3|$  [4]

(b) Solve the inequality  $|x - 5| < |x - 3|$  [4]

5\*. [Maximum mark: 5] **[with / without GDC]**

Solve the inequality  $x^2 - 3|x| + 2 > 0$

6\*. [Maximum mark: 10] **[with / without GDC]**

(a) Solve the equation  $|x - 5| = x - 3$  [5]

(b) Solve the inequality  $|x - 5| < x - 3$  [5]

7\*. [Maximum mark: 12] **[with / without GDC]**

(a) Solve the equation  $|x - 5| = |x| - 3$  [6]

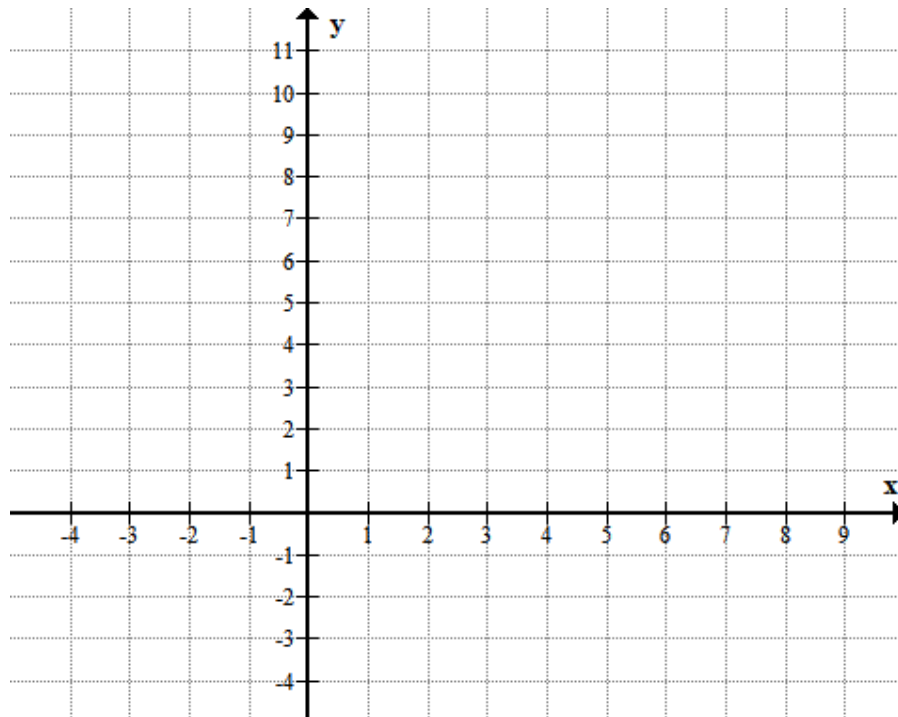
(b) Solve the inequality  $|x - 5| < |x| - 3$  [6]

8\*. [Maximum mark: 8] **[without GDC]**

(a) Draw the graph of  $f(x) = |x - 5| - |x| + 3$  [4]

(b) **Hence**, solve the inequalities

(i)  $f(x) > 0$  (ii)  $f(x) > 4$  (iii)  $f(x) > -4$  (iv)  $f(x) > 10$  [4]



**A. Exam style questions (SHORT)**

9. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

(a) Solve the equation  $\left| \frac{2x-6}{7} \right| = 8$ . [3]

(b) Solve the inequality  $\left| \frac{2x-6}{7} \right| \leq 8$ . [3]

10. [Maximum mark: 4] **[without GDC]**

Solve the equation  $|x^2 - 9| = 7$ .

11. [Maximum mark: 5] **[with / without GDC]**

Find the values of  $x$  for which  $|5 - 3x| \leq |x + 1|$ .

12. [Maximum mark: 5] **[with / without GDC]**

Solve the inequality  $|x - 2| \geq |2x + 1|$ .

13. [Maximum mark: 5] **[with GDC]**

Solve the inequality  $\left| \frac{x+9}{x-9} \right| \leq 2$ .

14. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

Solve the inequality  $\left| \frac{x+1}{x} \right| \geq 2$ .

15. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

Solve the inequality  $|x - 5| - |x - 10| \leq 7$ .

**Notice:** confirm the result by using the graph mode of the GDC

**B. Exam style questions (LONG)**

16. [Maximum mark: 14] **[without GDC]**

Let  $f(x) = |x - 3| + |x + 2|$

(a) Draw the graph of the function  $f$  in the diagram below. [4]

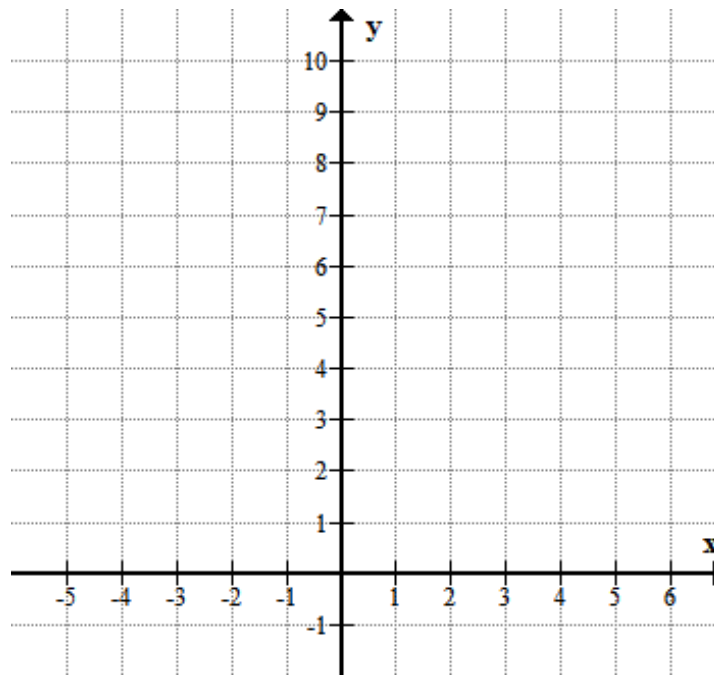
(b) Write down the range of  $f$ . [2]

(c) Express the function in the form  $f(x) = \begin{cases} ax + b & x < -2 \\ c & -2 \leq x < 3 \\ dx + e & x \geq 3 \end{cases}$  [4]

(d) Hence, or otherwise,

(i) solve the equation  $f(x) = 9$ ;

(ii) solve the inequality  $f(x) \leq 9$ . [4]



17. [Maximum mark: 14] **[without GDC]**

Let  $f(x) = |x - 3| - |x + 2|$

(a) Draw the graph of the function  $f$  in the diagram below. [4]

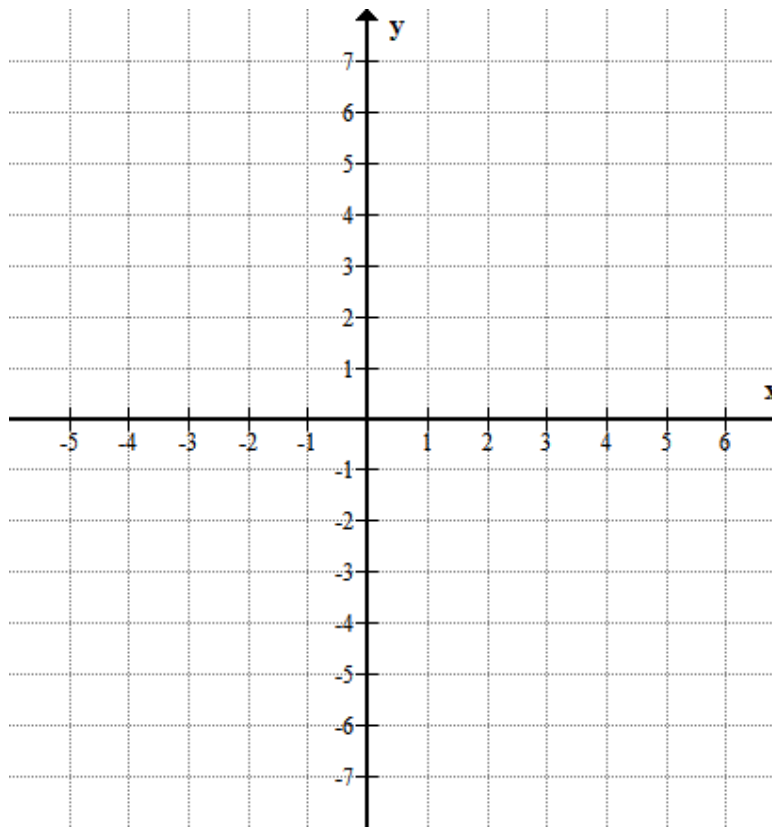
(b) Write down the range of  $f$ . [2]

(c) Express the function in the form  $f(x) = \begin{cases} a & x < -2 \\ bx + c & -2 \leq x < 3 \\ d & x \geq 3 \end{cases}$  [4]

(d) Hence, or otherwise,

(i) solve the equation  $f(x) = 0$ ;

(ii) solve the inequality  $f(x) > 1$ . [4]



18. [Maximum mark: 12] **[without GDC]**

Let  $f(x) = |x|$ ,  $g(x) = |2x - 5|$  and  $h(x) = \frac{x+4}{2}$

- (a) Solve  $f(x) > g(x)$  [5]
- (b) Solve  $f(x) < h(x)$  [5]
- (c) **Hence**, solve  $g(x) < f(x) < h(x)$ . [2]