Edexcel AS Mathematics Polynomials

Section 2: Dividing and factorising polynomials

Section test

1. Which of the following are factors of $x^3 - x^2 - 8x + 12$?

(a)
$$x + 1$$

(b)
$$x-1$$

(c)
$$x + 2$$

(d)
$$x-2$$

2. Which of the following are factors of $2x^3 + 5x^2 + x - 2$?

(a)
$$x+1$$

(b)
$$x-1$$

(c)
$$x+2$$

(d)
$$x-2$$

3. Which one of the following is NOT a factor of $2x^3 + x^2 - 2x - 1$?

(a)
$$2x+1$$

(b)
$$2x-1$$

(c)
$$x+1$$

(d)
$$x-1$$

4. Divide
$$2x^3 + 7x^2 - 7x - 5$$
 by $2x + 1$.

5. Divide
$$3x^4 - 7x^3 + 4x^2 - 8$$
 by $x - 2$.

6.
$$x-2$$
 is a factor of $3x^3-5x^2+ax+2$.
What is the value of a ?

7.
$$x-1$$
 and $x+2$ are both factors of $2x^3 - x^2 + px + q$. Find the values of p and q .

8.
$$x-1$$
 is a factor of $2x^3 + x^2 - 5x + 2$. This expression can be written in the form $(x-1)(ax^2 + bx + c)$. Find the values of a , b and c .

9. Factorise
$$6x^3 + 7x^2 - x - 2$$
 into three linear factors.

10. Solve the equation
$$2x^3 + x^2 - 5x + 2 = 0$$
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