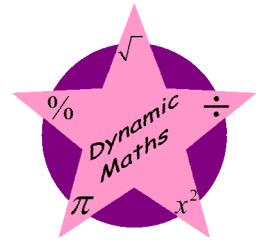


National 5 Mathematics Revision Notes



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Last updated August 2015

Use this booklet to practise working independently. It will help you to in the exam.

- Get in the habit of turning to this booklet to refresh your memory.
- If you have forgotten how to do a method, **examples** are given.
- If you have forgotten what a word means, use the **index** (back page) to look it up.

As you get closer to the final test, you should be using to use this booklet more and more.

This booklet is for:

- Students following the National 5 Mathematics course.
- Students studying more of the National 5 Mathematics units: **Expressions and Formulae, Relationships, or Application**.

This booklet contains:

- The most important facts you need to memorise for National 5 Mathematics.
- Examples that take you through the most common **routine** questions in each unit.
- Definitions of the key words you need to know.

Use this booklet:

- To refresh your memory of the method you were taught in class when you are stuck on a homework question or a test question.
- To memorise key facts when preparing for the exam.

The key to revising for a math exam is to do questions, not to read notes. As well as using this booklet, you should also:

- Revise by working through exercises on topics you need more practice on – such as revision booklets, textbooks, websites, or other practice suggested by your teacher.
- Work through practice tests.
- Ask your teacher when you come across a question you cannot answer.
- Use resources online (a link that can be scanned with a SmartPhone is on the last page)

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All information in this revision guide has been prepared with care and with thorough reference to the materials provided by the SQA, including the course arrangements, course and unit descriptions, the exam specification, specimen question paper and unit assessments.

These notes will be updated as and when new information becomes available.

We try our hardest to ensure that the notes are accurate, but despite our best efforts, mistakes sometimes appear. If you do discover any mistakes in these notes, please email us at dynamicmaths@dynamicmaths.co.uk. A corrected replacement copy of the notes will be provided free of charge! We would also like to hear of any suggestions for improvement.

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With grateful thanks to **Arthur McLaughlin** and **John Stobo** for their proof reading.

Formula Sheet

The following formulae from these notes are collected on this page for ease of reference:

Formulae that are given on the formula sheet in the exam (or in unit assessments)

Topic	Formula(e)	Page Reference
Volume of a Pyramid	$V = \frac{1}{3} Ah$	See page 36
Volume of a Sphere and Cone	Sphere: $V = \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3$ Cone: $V = \frac{1}{3} \pi r^2 h$	See page 37
The Quadratic Formula	$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$	See page 55
Area of a Triangle	$A = \frac{1}{2} ab \sin C$	See page 68
Sine rule	$\frac{a}{\sin A} = \frac{b}{\sin B} = \frac{c}{\sin C}$	See page 73
Cosine rule	$a^2 = b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos A$ or $\cos A = \frac{b^2 + c^2 - a^2}{2bc}$	See page 74
Standard deviation	$\sqrt{\frac{\sum (x - \bar{x})^2}{n}}$ or $\sqrt{\frac{\sum x^2 - \frac{(\sum x)^2}{n}}{n}}$	See page 91

Formulae that are not given in the exam (or in unit assessments)

Topic	Formula(e)	Page Reference
Completing the Square (quadratic method)	$p = \frac{b}{2}$	See page 52
Gradient	$m = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$	See page 65
Arc length and Sector Area	length: $\frac{\text{angle}}{360} \pi d$ Sector Area: $\frac{\text{angle}}{360} \pi r^2$	See pages 35/36
Volume of a prism and cylinder	Prism: $V = Ah$ Cylinder: $V = \pi r^2 h$	See pages 36/37
Straight line	$y - b = m(x - a)$	See page 42
Discriminant	$b^2 - 4ac$	See page 56
Pythagoras' Theorem	$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$	See page 58
Right-angled Trigonometry	$\sin x^\circ = \frac{\text{Opp}}{\text{Hyp}}$ $\cos x^\circ = \frac{\text{Adj}}{\text{Hyp}}$ $\tan x^\circ = \frac{\text{Opp}}{\text{Adj}}$	See page 60
Trigonometry	$\tan x = \frac{\sin x}{\cos x}$ $\sin^2 x + \cos^2 x = 1$	See page 71
Magnitude of a vector	$ \mathbf{a} = \sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2}$ $ \mathbf{a} = \sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2}$	See page 82
Percentage increase and decrease	$\frac{\text{increase (or decrease)}}{\text{original amount}} \times 100$	See page 85
Semi Interquartile Range (SIQR)	$\frac{\text{upper quartile} - \text{lower quartile}}{2}$	See page 91

There are two main methods that can be used. It is possible that you will have been taught one of these, or maybe you will have been taught both and will have chosen the one that you prefer. These can be described as **long multiplication** (where the sum is written out in a similar way to the single-digit multiplication sum, but with additional lines) or the **box method**.

In the box method, each number is split up according to its digits (e.g. 58 is split into 50 and 8; 238 is split into 200, 30 and 8) and then a mini 'table square' is produced. All the answers in the table square are then added together.

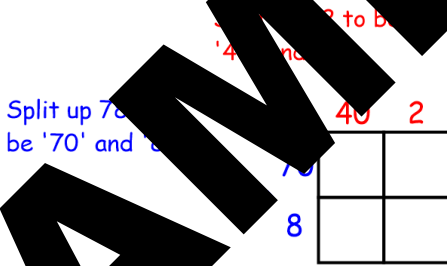
Example 2: Multiplying two two-digit numbers

Multiply 78×42

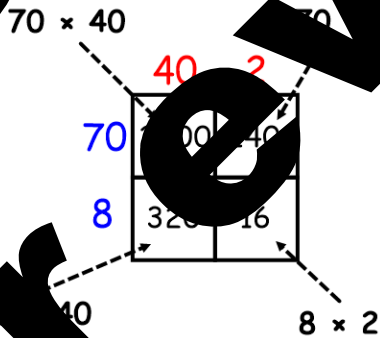
Solutions

Method A (Box Method)

Step 1 – construct a multiplication sum with two numbers along the top and two numbers along the top.



Step 2 – multiply the numbers in each row and column to obtain one number in each of the four smaller squares.



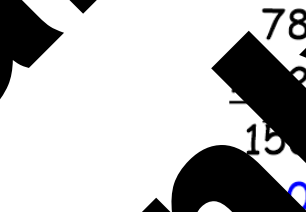
Step 3 – add the four numbers to obtain the final answer.

$2800 + 140 + 320 + 16 = \underline{3276}$

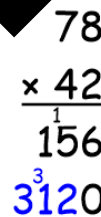
Method B (Long Multiplication)

Step 1 – start doing a usual multiplication sum and do 78×2 using the usual method.

Step 2 – the next line will be for 78×4 . However, since the sum should really be 78×40 , we write one zero in the units column.



Step 3 – complete the sum 78×42 using the usual method.



Step 4 – add the two answers to obtain the final answer.

$156 + 3120 = \underline{3276}$.

These methods can be extended to any multiplication sum, including multiplication of three- (or more)-digit numbers, or multiplication of decimals.

Example 3: Multiplying three-digit and two-digit numbers

Multiply 247×56

Solution

Using **method A** (box method) the working is as follows:

	200	40	7
50	10000	2000	350
6	1200	240	42

$$10000 + 2000 + 350 + 1200 + 240 + 42 = 13832$$

Using **method B** (long multiplication) the working is as follows:

$$\begin{array}{r} 247 \\ \times 56 \\ \hline 1482 \\ 12350 \\ \hline 13832 \end{array}$$

The final answer is £13832.

You might also be expected to multiply decimal numbers by multiples of 10, 100 or 1000 (e.g. multiplying by 10 or 6000).

The key to this method is splitting into two steps:

- Step A involves multiplying by a single digit using the method above.
- Step B involves multiplying by 10, 100 or 1000 (by moving all the digits to the left).

It does not matter which order Step A and Step B are done in. The following table illustrates how this can be done:

Calculator	Step A	Step B
Multiply by 20	Multiply by 2	Multiply by 10
Multiply by 300	Multiply by 3	Multiply by 100

Example 4: Multiplying by a multiple of 10, 100 or 1000

Multiply without a calculator: $3 \cdot 14 \times 3000$

Solution

First do $3 \cdot 14 \times 3$, and then multiply the answer by 1000, (or $3 \cdot 14 \times 1000$, and then $\times 3$).

$$3 \cdot 14 \times 3 = 9 \cdot 42 \text{ (working with carrying shown on right)}$$

$$9 \cdot 42 \times 1000 = \underline{9420}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3 \cdot 14 \\ \times 3 \\ \hline 9 \cdot 42 \end{array}$$

Expressions and Formulae Unit

Surds and Indices

Simplifying Surds

Definition: a **surd** is a square root (or cube root etc.) which does not have an exact answer. e.g. $\sqrt{2} = 1.414213562\dots$, so $\sqrt{2}$ is a surd. However $\sqrt{9} = 3$ and $\sqrt[3]{64} = 4$, so $\sqrt{9}$ and $\sqrt[3]{64}$ are not surds because they have an exact answer.

We can multiply and divide surds.

Facts

$$\sqrt{a} \times \sqrt{b} = \sqrt{ab}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{a}}{\sqrt{b}} = \sqrt{\frac{a}{b}}$$

$$(\sqrt{x} \times \sqrt{x})^2 = x$$

Example 1

Simplify $3\sqrt{2} \times 5\sqrt{2}$

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} 3\sqrt{2} \times 5\sqrt{2} &= 3 \times 5 \times \sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{2} \\ &= 15 \times 2 \quad (\text{because } \sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{2} = 2) \\ &= \underline{\underline{30}} \end{aligned}$$

To simplify a surd, you need to look for square numbers that are factors of the original number.

Example 2

Express $\sqrt{48}$ and $\sqrt{98}$ in their simplest form

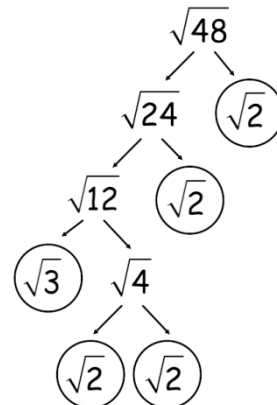
Solution

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{48} &= \sqrt{16 \times 3} & \sqrt{98} &= \sqrt{49 \times 2} \\ &= \sqrt{16} \times \sqrt{3} & &= \sqrt{49} \times \sqrt{2} \\ &= 4 \times \sqrt{3} & &= 7 \times \sqrt{2} \\ &= \underline{\underline{4\sqrt{3}}} & &= \underline{\underline{7\sqrt{2}}} \end{aligned}$$

Alternative Method (for $\sqrt{48}$): split 48 up into its prime factors – see the diagram on the right (note we could split it up however we wanted and would always end up with the same answer).

From the diagram, we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{48} &= \sqrt{2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 3} \\ &= 2 \times 2 \times \sqrt{3} \\ &= \underline{\underline{4\sqrt{3}}} \end{aligned}$$



Rules of Indices

Basic Rule 1: anything to the power 0 is equal to 1:

$$\text{e.g. } 5^0 = 1, \quad 17^0 = 1, \quad 35627658^0 = 1, \quad x^0 = 1$$

Basic Rule 2: anything to the power 1 is equal to itself:

$$\text{e.g. } 5^1 = 5, \quad 17^1 = 17, \quad 35627658^1 = 35627658, \quad x^1 = x$$

Key Rule 1: when you multiply two expressions in the same powers, you add the numbers in the power: $a^m \times a^n = a^{m+n}$

$$\text{e.g. } x^3 \times x^4 = x^7 \quad y^2 \times y^6 = y^{-1+6} = y^5$$

Key Rule 2: when you divide two expressions in the same powers, you take away the numbers in the power: $\frac{a^m}{a^n} = a^{m-n}$

$$\text{e.g. } \frac{a^5}{a^2} = a^3 = \underline{a^3} \quad \frac{m^{10}}{m^8} = m^2$$

Key Rule 3: when you raise the power to the power of another (nested powers), you multiply the numbers in the power: $(a^m)^n = a^{mn}$

$$\text{e.g. } (x^2)^3 = x^{2 \times 3} = \underline{x^6}$$

Example 1

Simplify $\frac{3x^4 \times 8x^8}{6x^2}$

Solution

$$\frac{3x^4 \times 8x^8}{6x^2} = \frac{24x^{12}}{6x^2} \quad (\text{multiply the powers when multiplying})$$

$$= 4x^{12-2} \quad (\text{take away the powers when dividing})$$

Example 2

Simplify $(5x^{-2})^2 \times x^8$

Solution

$$(5x^{-2})^2 \times x^8 = 25x^{-6} \times x^8 \quad (\text{multiplying the nested powers})$$

$$= 25x^2 \quad (\text{adding the powers when multiplying})$$

Example 3

Simplify $3x^2(x^{-2} + 2x^5)$

Solution

$$3x^2(x^{-2} + 2x^5) = 3x^2 \times x^{-2} + 3x^2 \times 2x^5$$

$$= 3x^{2+(-2)} + 6x^{2+5}$$

$$= 3x^0 + 6x^7$$

$$= \underline{3 + 6x^7}$$

Example 1 – (same as Example 2 in last section)

Factorise $3x^2 + 11x + 6$

Solution

Step 1 – list all the factors of 18 (we use 18 because it is 3×6)

Order does not matter but positive/negative does.

+ 18 and + 1, + 9 and + 2,
+ 3 and + 6, – 3 and – 6,
– 18 and – 1, – 9 and – 2

Step two – look for the pair of factors that add to make 11

We need a pair of factors that add to make 11

This means we use +9 and +2

Step three – split bx up using these factors

What this means is we split $11x$ up to be $9x + 2x$ (or $2x + 9x$ will work either way)

$$3x^2 + 11x + 6 = 3x^2 + 9x + 2x + 6$$

Step four – factorise each half of the expression by taking out a common factor:

$$3x^2 + 11x + 6 = 3x^2 + 9x + 2x + 6 \\ = 3x(x + 3) + 2(x + 3)$$

Notice how the two brackets are the same $(x + 3)$. This will always happen.

If it does not, you have made a mistake.

Step five – rewrite as two brackets

The second bracket in the second that is the same $(x + 3)$. The first bracket is what is 'left over' when the $(x + 3)$ has been taken out.

$$= 3x(x + 3) + 2(x + 3) \\ = (3x + 2)(x + 3)$$

Final answer: $(3x + 2)(x + 3)$

[As always, we should still multiply this bracket back out to double check our answer]

Example 2 – (where the 'guess and check' method would be much less efficient)

Factorise $6x^2 - 11x - 10$

Solution

Step 1 – list all the factors of –60 (we use –60 because it is 6×-10).

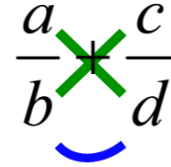
Order does not matter but positive/negative does.

–60 and +1, +60 and –1, –30 and +2, +30 and –2,
–20 and +3, +20 and –3, –15 and +4, +15 and –4,
–12 and +5, +12 and –5, –10 and +6, +10 and –6.

Adding and Subtracting Algebraic Fractions

You can only add and subtract fractions when the denominators are the same. When they are not the same, we have to change the fractions into another fraction that *is* the same.

A quick method for doing this, and the one used in these notes, is known as the **'kiss and smile'** method because of the shape formed when you draw lines between the terms you are combining:



$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{c}{d} = \frac{\quad}{bd}$$

Step One (the "smile") - Multiply the two bottom numbers together to get the "new" denominator. This will be the same for each fraction.

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{c}{d} = \frac{ad}{bd}$$

Step 2a (the first part of the "kiss") - Multiply diagonally the top left and bottom right terms.

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{c}{d} = \frac{ad}{bd}$$

Step 2b (the final part of the "kiss") - Multiply diagonally the top right and bottom left terms.

$$\frac{a}{b} + \frac{c}{d} = \frac{ad + bc}{bd}$$

Step 3 - Insert the add (or take away) sign between the two terms on the top row to get the final answer.

Example 1

Add, giving your answer as a single fraction in its simplest form:

$$\frac{m}{5} + \frac{3}{m}, \quad m \neq 0$$

Solution

Step one (smile)

$$\frac{m}{5} + \frac{3}{m}$$

Step two (kiss)

$$\frac{m}{5} \times \frac{3}{m}$$

$$\frac{m}{5} + \frac{3}{m} = \frac{\quad}{5m}$$

$$= \frac{m^2 + 15}{5m}$$

Final answer: $\frac{m^2 + 15}{5m}$

Perimeter, Area and Volume

Rounding to Significant Figures

Example 1

446.586 → Rounded to 1 significant figure is: **400**
 → Rounded to 2 significant figures is: **450**
 → Rounded to 3 significant figures is: **447**
 → Rounded to 4 significant figures is: **446.6**

Example 2

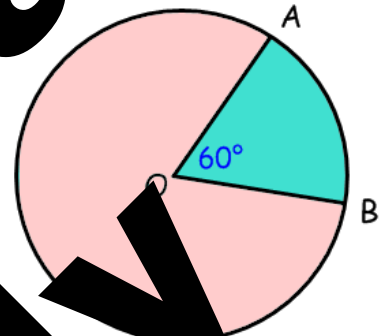
0.00567 → Rounded to 1 significant figure is: **0.006**
 → Rounded to 2 significant figures is: **0.0057**

Arc Length and Sector Area

An **arc** in a circle is a part of its circumference. A **sector** of a circle is a fraction of its area.

If you divide a circle into 360 bits, you get two sectors - a big one (major) and a small one (minor). In the diagram on the right:

- The smaller sector OAB is the **minor sector**, with the **minor arc AB**.
- The larger sector OAB is called the **major sector**, with the **major arc AB**.



The key to solving these questions is to identify the **fraction** of the circle that is in the question. This depends on the **angle** at the centre of the circle. This fraction is always $\frac{\text{angle}}{360}$.

Formula. These formulae are **not** given on the National 5 Mathematics exam paper.

Arc length of a circle: Arc length = $\frac{\text{Angle}}{360} \pi d$

Sector area of a circle: Sector Area = $\frac{\text{Angle}}{360} \pi r^2$

You are always allowed to use 3.14 instead of π in calculations.

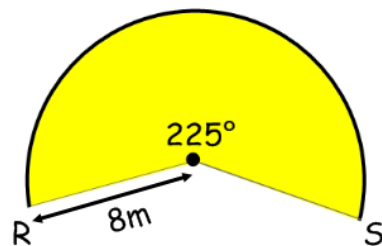
Example 1: Arc Length

Find the length of the (major) arc RS in this sector of a circle

Solution

Radius is 8m so diameter is 16m.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Arc length} &= \frac{225}{360} \pi d \\ &= \pi \times 16 \div 360 \times 225 \\ &= 31.41592... \\ &= \underline{31.4\text{m (1 d.p.)}} \end{aligned}$$



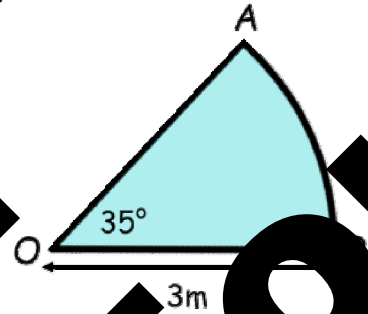
Note: units for arc length are just ‘normal’ units (i.e. not squared or cubic units).

Example 2 – Sector area

Calculate the area of (minor) sector AOB in this diagram.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \frac{35}{360} \pi r^2 \\ &= \pi \times 3^2 \div 360 \times 35 \\ &= 2.74889357... \\ &= \underline{2.75\text{m}^2} \text{ (2 d.p.)} \end{aligned}$$



Note: units for sector area must always be squared units.

Volumes of Solids

You should know from previous lessons how to calculate the volume of a prism. At National 5 level, you also need to know how to calculate the volume of a pyramid. Throughout this topic remember that:

- All volume answers must have answered in cubic units (e.g. cm^3 , inches³).
- You should always state your unrounded answer before rounding (see page 6).

Formula: This formula is not given on the National 5 Mathematics exam paper.

$$\text{Volume of a Prism: } V = Ah$$

= Area of cross section \times height

Formula: This formula is given on the National 5 Mathematics exam paper.

$$V = \frac{1}{3} Ah$$

Volume of a Pyramid:

$$\text{Volume} = \frac{1}{3} \text{Area of Base} \times \text{height}$$

Example 1 – Pyramid

The diagram shows a pyramid with height 27cm and a square base with sides of length 12cm.

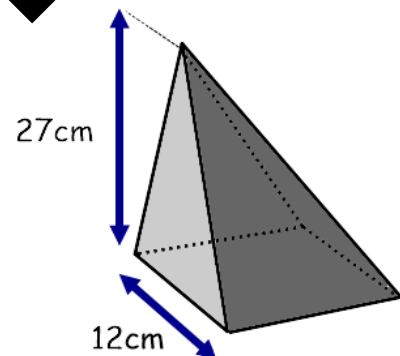
Calculate the volume of the pyramid.

Solution

The area of a square is given by the formula $A = L^2$, so the area of the base of this pyramid is $12^2 = 144\text{cm}^2$

Therefore the volume of the whole pyramid is

$$\begin{aligned} V &= \frac{1}{3} Ah \\ &= 144 \times 27 \div 3 \\ &= \underline{1296\text{cm}^3} \end{aligned}$$



Example 1a: using a method involving taking away

Solve algebraically the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} 3x - 2y &= 11 \\ 2x + 5y &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

Solution

Step One – Multiply through each equation by the number at the start of the other equation

e.g. in this example, we multiply the top equation by 2, and the bottom equation by 3

$$\begin{aligned} 3x - 2y &= 11 \times 2 \\ 2x + 5y &= 1 \times 3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 6x - 4y &= 22 \\ 6x + 15y &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

Step Two – Take away the two equations to eliminate the x terms

$$\begin{array}{r} 6x - 4y = 22 \\ -6x + 15y = 3 \\ \hline 19y = 19 \end{array}$$

Step Three – solve the resulting equation: $19y = 19$, so $y = -1$

Step Four – substitute the value for y back into one of the original equations (either one will do). In this example, we will use the top one:

$$\begin{aligned} 3x - 2y &= 11 \\ 3x - 2(-1) &= 11 \\ 3x - 2(-2) &= 11 \\ 3x + 4 &= 11 \\ 3x &= 7 \\ x &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

Step Five – check your answer works by substituting into the second equation

$$2x + 5y = 1$$

$$2(3) + 5(-1) = 1$$

$$6 - 5 = 1$$

$$1 = 1$$

$x = 3, y = -1$

Alternative strategy: adding. If the equation has both a positive and negative sign in the middle, a better strategy is to get the same coefficient in the middle and to **add** the equations.

Example 1b – same question as Example 1a but using a method involving adding

Solve algebraically the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} 3x - 2y &= 11 \\ 2x + 5y &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

Solution

Step One – Multiply through each equation by the number in front of the other equation

e.g. in this example, we multiply the top equation by 5, and the bottom equation by 2

$$\begin{aligned} 3x - 2y &= 11 \times 5 \\ 2x + 5y &= 1 \times 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 15x - 10y &= 55 \\ 4x + 10y &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

Step Two – Add the two equations to eliminate the y terms

$$\begin{array}{r} 15x - 10y = 55 \\ 4x + 10y = 2 \\ \hline 19x = 57 \end{array}$$

Step Three – solve the resulting equation: $19x = 57$, so $x = 3$

Roots of Quadratic Equations

Definition: the **roots** of a quadratic equation are another word for its solutions.
The roots of a graph of an equation are the points that the graph crosses the x -axis.

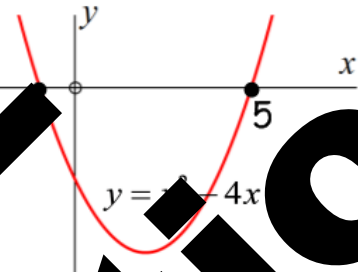
Example 1 – from a graph

Using the graph shown, write down the two solutions of the equation $x^2 - 4x - 5 = 0$

Solution

The roots are $x = -1$ and $x = 5$.

Factorising is the simplest way of solving a quadratic equation, but you can only use it when the expression actually can be factorised! See page 2 for help on this.



Important – you must rearrange the equation so that it has ‘= 0’ on the right hand side. If you do not do this, you will risk losing all of the marks.

Example 2 - factorising

Use factorising to solve the equation $2x^2 - 6x = 0$

Solution

Step 1 – check that the equation has ‘= 0’ on the right hand side.

On this occasion, it does, so we do not need to do anything more.

Step 2 – factorise the expression

$$2x^2 - 6x = 0$$

$$2x(x - 3) = 0$$

Step 3 – split up into two separate equations and solve

$$2x = 0, \quad x - 3 = 0$$

$$x = 0, \quad x = 3$$

Example 3 - Difference of Two Squares

Use factorising to solve the equation $y^2 - 49 = 0$

Solution

Step 1 – check that the equation has ‘= 0’ on the right hand side.

On this occasion, it does, so we do not need to do anything more.

Step 2 – factorise the expression

$$y^2 - 49 = 0$$

$$(y + 7)(y - 7) = 0$$

Step 3 – split up into two separate equations and solve

$$y + 7 = 0, \quad y - 7 = 0$$

$$y = -7, \quad y = 7$$

Example 4 – factorising with a coefficient of x^2

Use factorising to solve the equation $2x^2 + 9x - 5 = 0$

The Quadratic Formula

Formula. This formula is given on the National 5 Mathematics exam paper.

The roots of $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ are given by: $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

The quadratic formula can be used to solve any quadratic equation. We usually use it when you can't factorise the expression.

Important – you must rearrange the equation so that $= 0$ on the right-hand side. If you do not do this, you will risk losing all of the marks.

In the National 5 exam, a clue to use the formula (rather than factorising) is where the question tells you to “**give your answers correct to (1) decimal places**” etc. Remember you should always show your answer before rounding it on the page.

Example 1

Solve the equation $3x^2 + 2x - 6 = 0$, giving your answers correct to two decimal places.

Solution

Step 1 – Check the equation has ‘= 0’ on the R.H.S. It does so we can proceed.

Step 2 – write down what a , b and c are. $a = 3$, $b = 2$, $c = -6$

Step 3 – substitute into the formula and solve. **Being very careful when dealing with negative signs:**

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$x = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{2^2 - 4(3)(-6)}}{2 \times 3}$$

$$x = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4 + (-72)}}{6}$$

$$x = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{76}}{6}$$

$$x = \frac{-2 + \sqrt{76}}{6}$$

$$= 1.119\dots$$

$$= 1.12 \text{ (2 d.p.)}$$

$$x = \frac{-2 - \sqrt{76}}{6}$$

$$= -1.786\dots$$

$$= -1.79 \text{ (2 d.p.)}$$

Essential to remember brackets when putting into the calculator!

If the number under the square root sign works out to be negative, then you will not be able to complete the formula. This means either that:

- You have made a mistake with negative numbers and need to check your working (realistically this is the most likely thing that would have happened in an exam)
- Or the equation has no solution (happens a lot in real life, but less likely in an exam)

Example 2

Solve the equation $2x^2 - 5x - 1 = 3$, giving your answers correct to 2 d.p.

Solution

Step 1 – check the equation has ‘= 0’ on the right-hand side. It does not, so we have to rearrange:

$$2x^2 - 5x - 1 - 3 = 0$$

$$2x^2 - 5x - 4 = 0$$

Step 2 – write down what a , b and c are: $a = 2, b = -5, c = -4$

Step 3 – substitute into the formula and solve – **be very careful when dealing with negative signs:**

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$x = \frac{-(-5) \pm \sqrt{(-5)^2 - 4 \times 2 \times (-4)}}{2 \times 2}$$

$$x = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{25 + 32}}{4}$$

$$x = \frac{5 + \sqrt{57}}{4}$$

$$= 3.137...$$

$$= 3.14 \text{ (2 d.p.)}$$

$$x = \frac{5 - \sqrt{57}}{4}$$

$$= -0.637...$$

$$= -0.64 \text{ (2 d.p.)}$$

Answer: $x = 3.14$ and $x = -0.64$

Essential to remember brackets when putting into the calculator!

The Discriminant

To solve any quadratic equation, we have to use the formula $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Since this

formula contains $\sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}$ and we can only take the root of a positive number, the value of $b^2 - 4ac$ is important, and has a special name, the **discriminant**. The symbol Δ can be used for the discriminant.

Formal Note: This formula is **not** given on the National 5 Mathematics exam paper, though the quadratic formula that contains it is given.

The **discriminant** of a quadratic equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ is given by $\Delta = b^2 - 4ac$

The **discriminant** of the quadratic equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ is the number that has to be square rooted to complete the quadratic formula.

A quadratic equation may have two roots (known as **real and distinct** roots), one root (known as a **real and equal** root) or **no real roots**.

Simply put, the discriminant tells us how many real roots there are to a quadratic equation

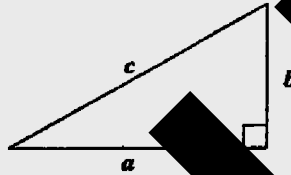
- If the discriminant is positive ($\Delta > 0$), the equation has two **distinct real** roots (also known as **unequal real** roots).

Lengths and Angles

Pythagoras' Theorem

At National 4, you learnt how to use Pythagoras' Theorem to find the length of the third side in a right-angled triangle without needing to measure it.

Theorem of Pythagoras. This formula is not given on the National 5 Mathematics exam paper.



There are three steps to any Pythagoras question:

Step One – square the length of the two sides

Step Two – either add or take away

- To find the length of the longest side (the hypotenuse), **add** the squared numbers.
- To find the length of a shorter side, **take away** the squared numbers.

Step Three – square root remembering the units if you are given any.

Example 1 – remember the basic method from National 4.
Calculate x , correct to 1 decimal place.

Solution – finding the length of x . The longer side, 12, is the hypotenuse, so we **take away**.

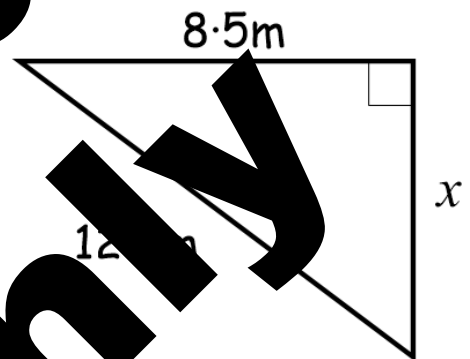
$$x^2 = 12 \cdot 3^2 - 8 \cdot 5^2$$

$$x^2 = 79 \cdot 04$$

$$x = \sqrt{79 \cdot 04}$$

$$x = 8 \cdot 89044$$

$$x = 8 \cdot 9 \text{ (m (1 d.p.))}$$



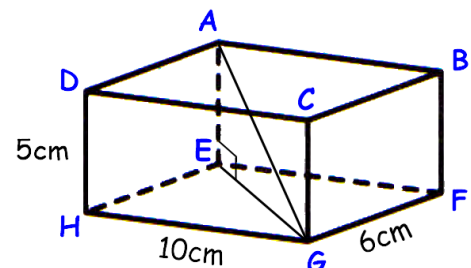
At National 5 you need to be able to extend your ability to use Pythagoras in more challenging situations:

- In **three-dimensional** diagrams.
- In diagrams involving **circles**.
- Using the **converse** of Pythagoras.

Example 2 – Pythagoras in 3d

The diagram shows a cuboid with sides of length 5cm, 10cm and 6cm.

Calculate the length of the diagonal AG.



Solution

To find AG, we have to use Pythagoras in triangle AEG. However before we can do this, we must calculate length EG.

First we use Pythagoras in triangle EGH, in which EG is the hypotenuse, and the other sides are 10cm and 6cm.

$$EG^2 = 10^2 + 6^2$$

$$= 136$$

$$EG = \sqrt{136}$$

We could write this answer as a decimal but it is actually easier for the next step to leave it as a surd.

Now we use Pythagoras in triangle AEG, which has hypotenuse AG, and other sides of length 5cm, and $\sqrt{136}$ cm.

$$AG^2 = (\sqrt{136})^2 + 5^2$$

$$= 161$$

$$AG = \sqrt{161}$$

$$= 12.7 \text{ cm (1 d.p.)}$$

Definition: a chord of a circle is a straight line going from one point of the circle to another.

Example: Pythagoras in circles (past International 2 exam question)

A table is in the shape of part of a circle. The centre of the circle is O. The width of the table is 70cm. The radius OA is 40cm.

Find the width of the table.

Solution

Step one – draw a new line in the diagram to make the diagram more useful.

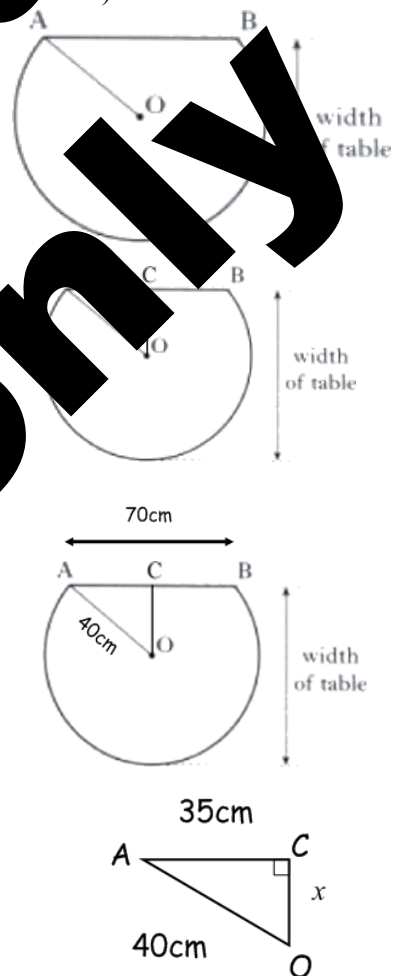
In the diagram on the right, this is (C). This means that triangle OAC is right-angled.

Step two – write in the length of the radius and any other lengths we are told.

OA is 40cm and AB is 70cm.

Step three – identify the lengths in the right-angled triangle, using the fact that the ‘new’ line splits the chord in half.

In this diagram, AB is 70cm, so AC must be 35cm.



Example 1 (Positive values of sin, cos and tan)

Solve the equation $5 \sin x - 2 = 1$ for $0 \leq x < 360^\circ$:

Solution:

Step One – rearrange the equation

$$5 \sin x - 2 = 1$$

$$5 \sin x = 1 + 2$$

$$5 \sin x = 3$$

Step Two – find the first solution using \sin^{-1}

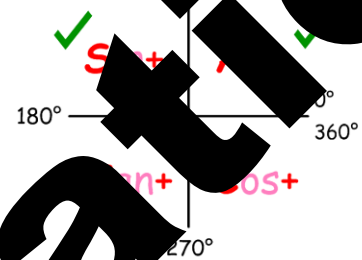
$$\sin x = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$x = \sin^{-1}(3 \div 5)$$

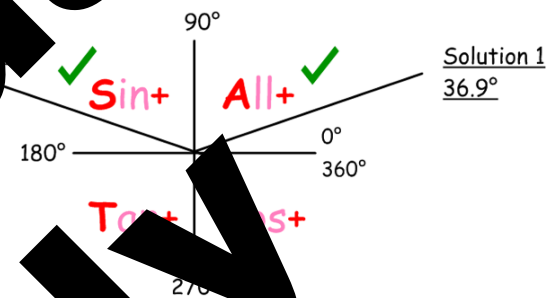
$$x = 36.9^\circ$$

Step Three – find the second solution using CAST

This question involves **sin**. The number on the right is $\frac{3}{5}$, which is **positive**. This means we tick ALL and SIN quadrants.



Put both answers into the diagram. The diagram shows using symmetry that solution 2 is given by $180 - 36.9^\circ$.



Answer: $x = 36.9^\circ, x = 143.1^\circ$

Example 2 (Negative values of sin, cos and tan)

Solve the equation $3 \cos x + 3 = 1$ for $0 \leq x < 360^\circ$:

Solution:

Step One – rearrange the equation

$$3 \cos x + 3 = 1$$

$$3 \cos x = 1 - 3$$

$$3 \cos x = -2$$

Step Two – find the first solution using \cos^{-1}

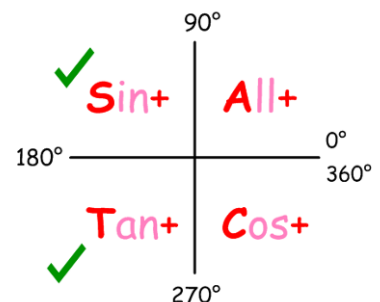
$$\cos x = \frac{-2}{3}$$

$$x = \cos^{-1}(-2 \div 3)$$

$$x = 131.8^\circ$$

Step Three – find the second solution using CAST

This question involves **cos**. The number on the right is $\frac{-2}{3}$, which is **negative**. This means that cos is NOT positive, so we do NOT tick ALL and COS, instead we tick the SIN and TAN quadrants.



SAMPLE EVALUATION ONLY

Applications Unit

Trigonometry

Area of a triangle

To find the area of any triangle you need the length of two sides and the size of the angle between them.

Formula. This formula is given on the National 5 Mathematics exam paper.
Area of a Triangle: $\frac{1}{2}ab \sin C$

Important: in the formula, a and b mean the lengths, and C means the angle. It is possible that you may be given a diagram where different letters are used. You have to ignore these letters and relabel the two sides (in order if it matter) and the angle between them as C .

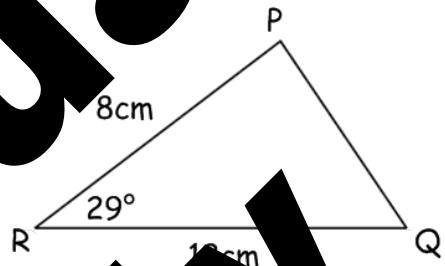
Example

Find the area of this triangle. Round your answer to 3 significant figures.

Solution

a and b are the two sides, so we use $a = 8$, $b = 12$
 C is the angle between the lengths, so $C = 29^\circ$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area} &= \frac{1}{2}ab \sin C \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \times 8 \times 12 \times \sin 29^\circ \\ &= 4 \times 12 \times 0.4848096204 \\ &= 23.27086177... \\ &= 23.3 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ (3 s.f.)} \end{aligned}$$



Sine Rule

Formula. This formula is given on the National 5 Mathematics exam paper.

$$\frac{a}{\sin A} = \frac{b}{\sin B} = \frac{c}{\sin C}$$

Where a and c are the lengths of the sides of the triangle and A , B and C are the angles in the triangle. Side a is opposite angle A etc.

Important: to answer a question you do not use the formula as it is written. You only need

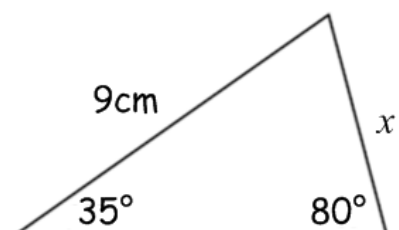
the two 'bits': $\frac{a}{\sin A} = \frac{b}{\sin B}$

Example 1 – sine rule for lengths

Find the length x in this triangle.

Solution

x cm is opposite 35° , so use $a = x$ and $A = 35^\circ$
9cm is opposite 80° , so use $b = 9$ and $B = 80^\circ$



Vectors

3d Coordinates

We can extend the traditional 2 dimensional Cartesian diagram into 3 dimensions by adding a third axis called the z axis which is at right angles to both the x axis and y axis.

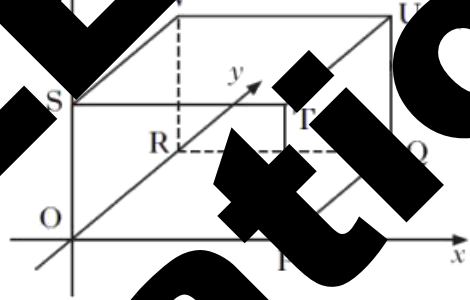
Example (diagram adapted from 2010 Higher exam paper)

In the diagram on the right, the point U has coordinates (4, 2, 3).

State the coordinates of P, V and Q.

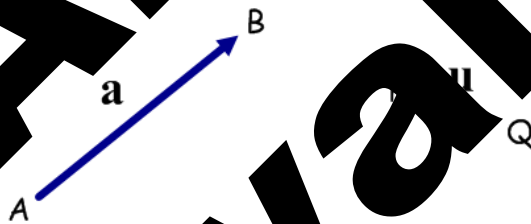
Solution

- P is the point (4, 0, 0).
- V is the point (0, 2, 3).
- Q is the point (4, 2, 0).



Definition of a Vector

A vector is a quantity that has both size and direction. It can be represented as an arrow, where the length of the arrow represents the vector's size and the arrow is a **directed line segment** and the direction on the arrow is pointed to represent its direction.



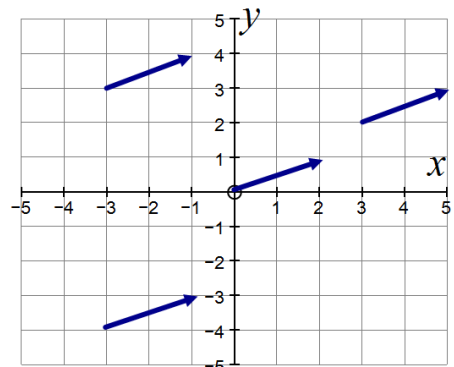
There are two ways of naming a vector:

- One way is to refer to a vector by a single letter. For instance in the three examples above, the three vectors are called **a**, **u** and **x**. In print, we use a bold type letter to represent a vector (e.g. **a**). When handwriting, we use underlining in place of bold, e.g. a.
- Another way is to name a vector using the start and end points. For instance the first vector above goes from A to B, and so it could be represented as \overrightarrow{AB} . The middle vector could be represented \overrightarrow{PQ} , and the final one would be represented \overrightarrow{HG} (not \overrightarrow{GH}).

Components of a vector

A vector is described in terms of its **components**, which describe how far the vector moves in the x and y directions respectively. For a three-dimensional vector there would be three components, with the third component referring to the z direction.

With vectors, the important thing is how the vector moves, not where it begins or starts. All the vectors in the diagram on the right represent the same vector **a**, as both move 2 units in the x direction and 1 unit in the y direction:



The components of a vector are written in a column. A 2-d vector would be written $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$. A

3-d vector would be $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$. For example the vector $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$ is a 3-d vector moving 1 unit in the x direction, 2 units in the y direction and -3 units in the z direction.

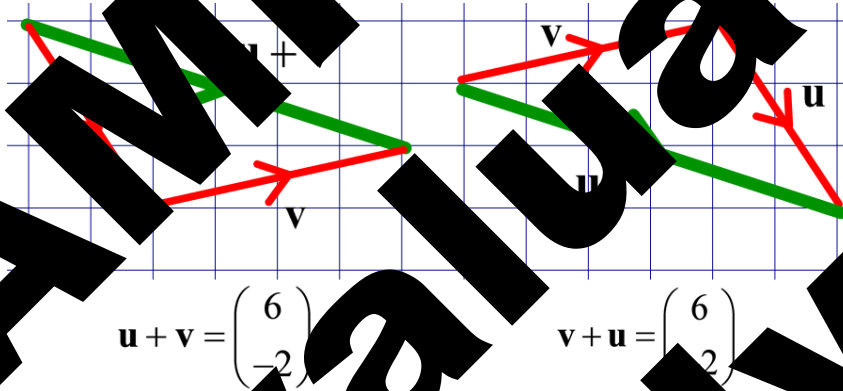
Adding Vectors

We can add vectors to create a **resultant vector**. We can do this in two ways:

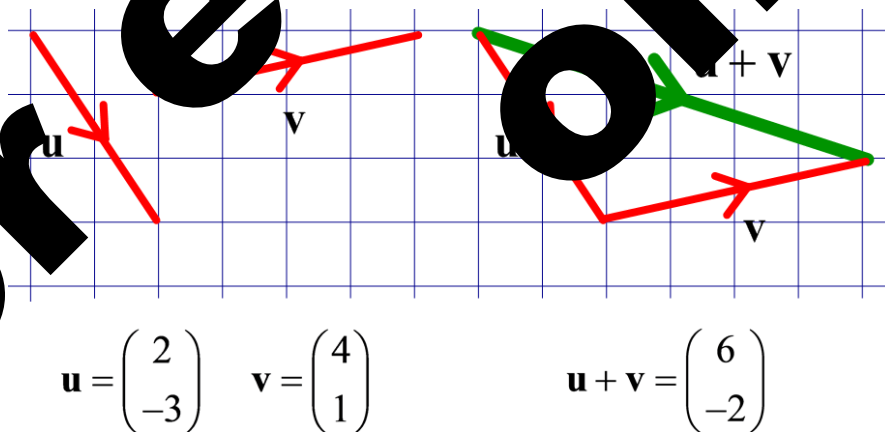
- **numerically** by adding their components.

If we have two vectors, $\mathbf{a} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix}$, the resultant vector is $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 + b_1 \\ a_2 + b_2 \end{pmatrix}$.

- **In a diagram** by joining the tail of one to the head of the other.



It does not matter which order you add vectors in: $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{a}$.



In real life, resultant vectors can be used to work out what the combined effect of more than one force pulling on an object will be.

Example 2 – find the percentage first

A house cost £240 000 when first bought. One year later its value has appreciated to £250 800.

- Find the rate of appreciation (in an exam, this part would have 1 mark)
- If the house continues to appreciate at this rate, what will its value be after a further 4 years?

Solution

- a) The increase is $250\,800 - 240\,000 = £10\,800$

Using the formula, the percentage increase is given by:

$$\frac{10800}{240000} \times 100 = \underline{\underline{4.5\%}}$$

- b) Using the quicker method:

Appreciation means increasing, so we add.

$100\% + 4.5\% = 104.5\%$ we use 1.045 in the quicker method.

The question is for four years so need to repeat 4 times (a power of 4).
(Note the question says after four years – so we start with £250 800 not £240 000).

$$250800 \times 1.045^4 = 299600.65$$

After a further 4 years, the house will be worth £299 600 (3 s.f.)

Example 3 – no starting value

A house is first depreciated in value by 5% and then appreciated in value by 12%.
How much has its value changed overall?

Solution

It does not matter that we do not have a starting value. We can just do the multiplication calculation with the multiplier value.

The multiplier for a 5% depreciation is 0.95 (since $100 - 5 = 95$).

The multiplier for a 12% appreciation is 1.12 (since $100 + 12 = 112$).

$$0.95 \times 1.12 = 1.064$$

1.064 is the multiplier for a 6.4% appreciation.

Answer: a 5% depreciation, followed by a 12% appreciation is equivalent to a 6.4% appreciation overall.

Tip: Always use multipliers and powers in any National 5 percentages exam question.

Compound Interest

Compound interest is always an example of **appreciation** (because the amount in the account is always going up), so you always add the amount on each time.

There are two types of questions you may be asked about compound interest:

- If the question asks **how much money** is in the account (the **balance**) you do the appreciation calculation as normal. See Example 1.

Statistics

Scatter Graphs and Line of Best Fit

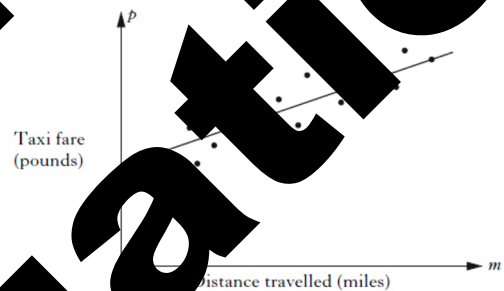
The line of best fit on a scattergraph is a straight line. This means that you can find the equation of a line of best fit using the method ($y = mx + c$) on page 39.

Once you have the equation, you can use the equation to estimate the value of y when you are told x (or vice versa). **At National 5, you have to use the equation to get any marks** (the question will say this). You *cannot* do it by “looking and guessing”. Any answer without working will get zero marks, even if it happens to be correct.

Example 1 (2010 Intermediate 2 Exam Question)

A scattergraph shows the taxi fare in pounds plotted against the distance travelled in miles. A line of best fit is drawn.

The equation of the line of best fit is $p = 2 + 1.5m$. Use this equation to predict the taxi fare for a journey of 6 miles.



Solution

The journey is 6 miles, so $m = 6$. Using the equation

$$p = 2 + 1.5m$$

$$p = 2 + 1.5 \times 6$$

$$p = 11 \text{ miles}$$

Example 2

A scattergraph shows the power (P) after t hours of charging an industrial battery.

- Find the equation of the line of best fit.
- Use your equation to estimate the power of a battery that has been charged for 60 hours.

Solution

- We use the usual method for $y = mx + c$ (see page 41). Of course, since the letters m and c are being used, we will use $P = mt + c$.

The y intercept is 10, so $c = 10$.

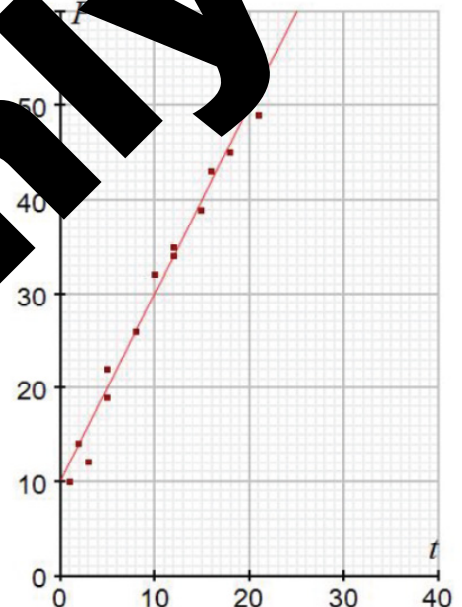
Now choose two points on the line (not necessarily on the original scatter graph) to calculate the gradient.

Two points on the line are (0, 10) and (10, 30). Therefore the gradient is:

$$m = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$

$$= \frac{30 - 10}{10 - 0} = \frac{20}{10}$$

$$= 2$$



Formula. These formulae are given on the National 5 Mathematics exam paper.

$$\text{standard deviation} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (x - \bar{x})^2}{n - 1}} \quad \text{or} \quad \sqrt{\frac{\sum x^2 - \frac{(\sum x)^2}{n}}{n - 1}}$$

Where n is how many numbers are in the list, \bar{x} is the mean and Σ means “add together”

You only need to use one of these formulae. In general it is more helpful to just know the method rather than memorising the formula.

Example

- a) Find the mean of these five numbers: 2, 3, 9, 6, 5
 b) Find the standard deviation of the same five numbers

Solution

a) $\frac{2 + 3 + 9 + 6 + 5}{5} = \frac{25}{5} = 5$ the mean is 5

- b) You have a choice of two methods:

Method 1 – use the formula $s = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (x - \bar{x})^2}{n - 1}}$

Step 1 – Draw up a table showing x , $x - \bar{x}$ and

x	$x - \bar{x}$	$(x - \bar{x})^2$
2		
3		
9		
6		

Step 2 – Complete the table,

remembering that $\bar{x} = 5$.

Step 3 – find the total of the final

column

So $\sum (x - \bar{x})^2 = 30$

x	$x - \bar{x}$	$(x - \bar{x})^2$
2	-3	9
3	-2	4
9	4	16
6	1	1
5	0	0
TOTAL		30

Step 4 – use the formula, remembering that $n = 5$ as there were five numbers.

$$\begin{aligned} s &= \sqrt{\frac{\sum (x - \bar{x})^2}{n - 1}} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{30}{5 - 1}} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{30}{4}} = 2.74 \text{ (2 d.p.)} \end{aligned}$$

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