6. Binomial Expansion

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7. (a) Find the first 3 terms, in ascending powers of x, of the binomial expansion of $\left(2 - \frac{x}{2}\right)^7$, giving each term in its simplest form.

(4)

(b) Explain how you would use your expansion to give an estimate for the value of 1.995^7

(1)

7. (a) Use the binomial expansion, in ascending powers of x, to show that

$$\sqrt{(4-x)} = 2 - \frac{1}{4}x + kx^2 + ...$$

where k is a rational constant to be found.

(4)

A student attempts to substitute $x = 1$ into both sides of this equation to find an approximate value for $\sqrt{3}$.

(b) State, giving a reason, if the expansion is valid for this value of x.

(1)

11. (a) Find the first 3 terms, in ascending powers of x, of the binomial expansion of

$$\left(2 - \frac{x}{16}\right)^9$$

giving each term in its simplest form.

(4)

$$f(x) = (a + bx)\left(2 - \frac{x}{16}\right)^9, \text{ where } a \text{ and } b \text{ are constants}$$

Given that the first two terms, in ascending powers of x, in the series expansion of $f(x)$ are 128 and $36x$,

(b) find the value of a,

(2)

(c) find the value of b.

(2)

11. (a) Use binomial expansions to show that $\sqrt{\frac{1+4x}{1-x}} \approx 1+\frac{5}{2}x-\frac{5}{8}x^2$

(6)

A student substitutes $x=\frac{1}{2}$ into both sides of the approximation shown in part (a) in an attempt to find an approximation to $\sqrt{6}$

(b) Give a reason why the student **should not** use $x=\frac{1}{2}$

(1)

(c) Substitute $x=\frac{1}{11}$ into

$$\sqrt{\frac{1+4x}{1-x}} = 1+\frac{5}{2}x-\frac{5}{8}x^2$$

to obtain an approximation to $\sqrt{6}$. Give your answer as a fraction in its simplest form.

(3)

Question 11 continued

8. (a) Find the first 3 terms, in ascending powers of x, of the binomial expansion of

$$\left(2 + \frac{3x}{4}\right)^6$$

giving each term in its simplest form.

(4)

(b) Explain how you could use your expansion to estimate the value of 1.925^6
You do not need to perform the calculation.

(1)

4. (a) Find the first three terms, in ascending powers of x, of the binomial expansion of

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{4-x}}$$

giving each coefficient in its simplest form.

(4)

The expansion can be used to find an approximation to $\sqrt{2}$
Possible values of x that could be substituted into this expansion are:

- $x = -14$ because $\dfrac{1}{\sqrt{4-x}} = \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{18}} = \dfrac{\sqrt{2}}{6}$
- $x = 2$ because $\dfrac{1}{\sqrt{4-x}} = \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \dfrac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$
- $x = -\dfrac{1}{2}$ because $\dfrac{1}{\sqrt{4-x}} = \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{\dfrac{9}{2}}} = \dfrac{\sqrt{2}}{3}$

(b) Without evaluating your expansion,

(i) state, giving a reason, which of the three values of x should not be used

(1)

(ii) state, giving a reason, which of the three values of x would lead to the most accurate approximation to $\sqrt{2}$

(1)

Question 4 continued

(Total for Question 4 is 6 marks)

6. (a) Find the first 4 terms, in ascending powers of x, in the binomial expansion of

$$(1 + kx)^{10}$$

where k is a non-zero constant. Write each coefficient as simply as possible.

(3)

Given that in the expansion of $(1 + kx)^{10}$ the coefficient x^3 is 3 times the coefficient of x,

(b) find the possible values of k.

(3)

1. (a) Find the first four terms, in ascending powers of x, of the binomial expansion of

$$(1+8x)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

giving each term in simplest form.

(3)

(b) Explain how you could use $x = \frac{1}{32}$ in the expansion to find an approximation for $\sqrt{5}$

There is no need to carry out the calculation.

(2)

4. In the binomial expansion of

$$(a + 2x)^7 \qquad \text{where } a \text{ is a constant}$$

the coefficient of x^4 is 15 120

Find the value of a.

(3)

8. $g(x) = (2 + ax)^8$ where a is a constant

Given that one of the terms in the binomial expansion of $g(x)$ is $3402x^5$

(a) find the value of a.

(4)

Using this value of a,

(b) find the constant term in the expansion of

$$\left(1 + \frac{1}{x^4}\right)(2 + ax)^8$$

(3)

Question 8 continued

(Total for Question 8 is 7 marks)

9.

$$f(x) = \frac{50x^2 + 38x + 9}{(5x + 2)^2(1 - 2x)} \qquad x \neq -\frac{2}{5} \quad x \neq \frac{1}{2}$$

Given that $f(x)$ can be expressed in the form

$$\frac{A}{5x + 2} + \frac{B}{(5x + 2)^2} + \frac{C}{1 - 2x}$$

where A, B and C are constants

(a) (i) find the value of B and the value of C

(ii) show that $A = 0$

(4)

(b) (i) Use binomial expansions to show that, in ascending powers of x

$$f(x) = p + qx + rx^2 + \ldots$$

where p, q and r are simplified fractions to be found.

(ii) Find the range of values of x for which this expansion is valid.

(7)

Question 9 continued

6. (a) Find the first 4 terms, in ascending powers of x, of the binomial expansion of

$$\left(3 - \frac{2x}{9}\right)^8$$

giving each term in simplest form.

(4)

$$f(x) = \left(\frac{x-1}{2x}\right)\left(3 - \frac{2x}{9}\right)^8$$

(b) Find the coefficient of x^2 in the series expansion of $f(x)$, giving your answer as a simplified fraction.

(2)

7. (a) Find the first four terms, in ascending powers of x, of the binomial expansion of

$$\sqrt{4 - 9x}$$

writing each term in simplest form.

(4)

A student uses this expansion with $x = \frac{1}{9}$ to find an approximation for $\sqrt{3}$

Using the answer to part (a) and without doing any calculations,

(b) state whether this approximation will be an overestimate or an underestimate of $\sqrt{3}$ giving a brief reason for your answer.

(1)

Question 7 continued

(Total for Question 7 is 5 marks)

14. Find, in simplest form, the coefficient of x^5 in the expansion of

$$\left(5 + 8x^2\right)\left(3 - \frac{1}{2}x\right)^6$$

(5)

13. **In this question you must show all stages of your working.**

Solutions relying entirely on calculator technology are not acceptable.

(a) Find the first three terms, in ascending powers of x, of the binomial expansion of

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

writing each term in simplest form.

(4)

6. The binomial expansion of

$$(1 + ax)^{12}$$

up to and including the term in x^2 is

$$1 - \frac{15}{2}x + kx^2$$

where a and k are constants.

(a) Show that $a = -\frac{5}{8}$

(2)

(b) Hence find the value of k

(2)

Using the expansion and making your method clear,

(c) find an estimate for the value of $\left(\frac{17}{16}\right)^{12}$, giving your answer to 4 decimal places.

(2)

Question 6 continued

(Total for Question 6 is 6 marks)

2. (a) Find, in ascending powers of x, the first four terms of the binomial expansion of

$$(1-9x)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

giving each term in simplest form.

(3)

(b) Give a reason why $x = -\frac{2}{9}$ should **not** be used in the expansion to find an approximation to $\sqrt{3}$

(1)