

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE  
Mathematics: analysis and approaches

**MAA**

**EXERCISES [MAA 2.4-2.5]**  
**COMPOSITION – INVERSE FUNCTION**

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**O. Practice questions**

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

Let  $f(x) = 10 - 2x$  and  $g(x) = 5x$ . Calculate

- (a)  $(f \circ g)(x)$  and  $(g \circ f)(x)$  [2]
- (b)  $f^{-1}(x)$  [2]
- (c)  $g^{-1}(10)$  [2]
- (d)  $(f^{-1} \circ g)(x)$  and  $(g \circ f)^{-1}(x)$  [2]
- (e)  $(f \circ f)(x)$  and  $(g \circ g)(x)$  [2]

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

Complete the following table with the inverse of each function

Original function	Inverse function
$f(x) = x + 5$	$f^{-1}(x) = x - 5$
$f(x) = x - 5$	
$f(x) = x + 100$	
$f(x) = 3x$	
$f(x) = \frac{x}{5}$	
$f(x) = x^3$	
$f(x) = 3x + 100$	

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

Consider the following table of values for  $f$

$x$	1	2	3	4	5	6
$f(x)$	3	4	5	6	1	2

- (a) Write down the values of
- (i)  $f(1)$                       (ii)  $f^{-1}(1)$  [2]
- (b) Given that  $f(x) = 2$  write down the value of  $x$ . [1]
- (c) Given that  $f^{-1}(x) = 2$  write down the value of  $x$ . [1]

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

The tables below show some values of two functions  $f$  and  $g$

$x$	1	2	3	4
$f(x)$	2	-3	-1	3

$x$	1	2	3	4
$g(x)$	5	3	1	-3

- (a) Write down the values of  $g(3)$ ,  $f^{-1}(3)$ . [2]
- (b) Calculate  $(f \circ g)(2)$  [2]
- (c) Calculate  $(g \circ g)(3)$  [2]
- (d) Find a solution of the equation  $(g \circ f)(x) = 3$ . [2]

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5. [Maximum mark: 5] **[without GDC]**

Find the inverse of the function  $f(x) = \frac{x}{x+5}$

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

Let  $f(x) = 2^x$ , and  $g(x) = \frac{x}{x-2}$ ,  $x \neq 2$ . Find

(a)  $(g \circ f)(3)$ ; [3]

(b)  $g^{-1}(5)$ . [3]

**METHOD A** [by finding  $(g \circ f)(x)$  and  $g^{-1}(x)$  first]

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**METHOD B** [directly by definitions:  $(g \circ f)(3) = g(f(3))$  and  $g^{-1}(5) = x \Leftrightarrow g(x) = 5$ ]

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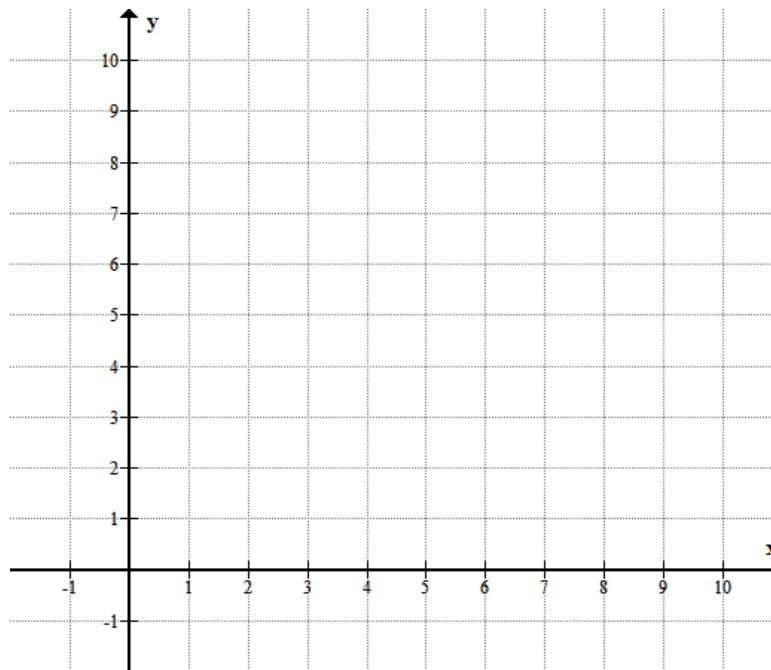
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7. [Maximum mark: 10] **[without GDC]**

The function  $f$  is given by  $f(x) = x^2$ , for  $0 \leq x \leq 3$ .

- (a) Sketch the graph of  $f$ . [2]
- (b) State the domain and the range of  $f$ . [2]
- (c) Find the inverse function  $f^{-1}$ . [2]
- (d) On the same axes with  $f$ , sketch the graph of  $f^{-1}$ . [2]
- (e) State the domain and the range of  $f^{-1}$ . [2]



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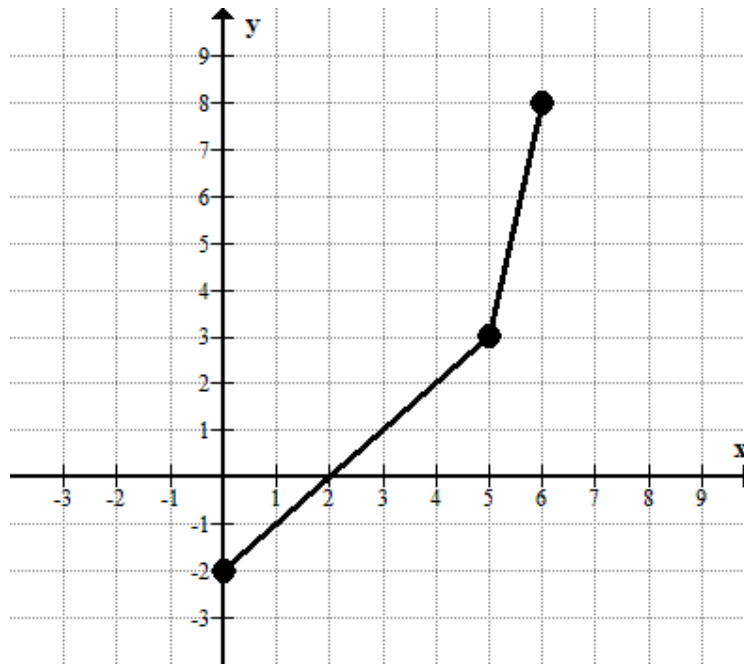
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8. [Maximum mark: 12] **[without GDC]**

The graph of the function  $f$  is shown below.



- (a) Write down the values of  
 (i)  $f(0)$                       (i)  $f(2)$                       (ii)  $f(4)$  [3]
- (b) Write down the values of  
 (i)  $f^{-1}(3)$                       (ii)  $f^{-1}(8)$                       (iii)  $f^{-1}(-1)$                       (iv)  $f^{-1}(0)$  [4]
- (c) Write down the solution of the equation  $f(x) = 0$  [1]
- (d) Write down the solution of the equation  $f(x) = 2$  [1]
- (e) On the diagram above sketch the graph of  $f^{-1}$  [3]

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

Let  $f(x) = \frac{2x-3}{3x-2}$ . Show that

(a)  $f^{-1} = f$  (i.e. the function is self-inverse) [4]

(b)  $(f \circ f)(x) = x$  [4]

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**10\***. [Maximum mark: 7] **[without GDC]**

The function  $f$  is defined by  $f : x \mapsto x^3$ .

(a) Find an expression for  $f^{-1}$ . [2]

(b) Find an expression for  $g(x)$  in terms of  $x$  in each of the following cases

(i)  $(f \circ g)(x) = x + 1$ ;

(ii)  $(g \circ f)(x) = x + 1$ . [5]

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**11\*\***. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

(a) Given that  $f \circ g = h$ , express  $f$  in terms of  $g$  and  $h$ . [2]

(b) Given that  $f \circ g = h$ , express  $g$  in terms of  $f$  and  $h$ . [2]

(c) Given that  $f \circ g \circ h = k$ , express  $g$  in terms of  $f$ ,  $h$  and  $k$ . [2]

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

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

Let  $g(x) = 3x - 2$ ,  $h(x) = \frac{5x}{x-4}$ ,  $x \neq 4$ .

(a) Find an expression for  $(h \circ g)(x)$ . Simplify your answer. [3]

(b) Solve the equation  $(h \circ g)(x) = 0$ . [3]

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

The functions  $f$  and  $g$  are defined by  $f: x \mapsto 3x$ ,  $g: x \mapsto x + 2$ .

(a) Find an expression for  $(f \circ g)(x)$ . [2]

(b) Show that  $f^{-1}(18) + g^{-1}(18) = 22$ . [4]

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

Let  $f(x) = 2x + 1$  and  $g(x) = 3x^2 - 4$ . Find

- (a)  $f^{-1}(x)$ ; [2]
- (b)  $(g \circ f)(-2)$ ; [2]
- (c)  $(f \circ g)(x)$ . [2]

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

The function  $f$  is defined by  $f: x \mapsto \sqrt{3 - 2x}$ ,  $x \leq \frac{3}{2}$

Evaluate  $f^{-1}(5)$ .

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

Let  $f(x) = \sqrt{x+4}$   $x \geq -4$  and  $g(x) = x^2$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

(a) Find  $(g \circ f)(3)$  [2]

(b) Find  $f^{-1}(x)$  [3]

(c) Write down the domain of  $f^{-1}$ . [1]

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17. [Maximum mark: 5] **[without GDC]**

Let  $f(x) = x^3 - 4$  and  $g(x) = 2x$ .

(a) Find  $(g \circ f)(-2)$ . [2]

(b) Find  $f^{-1}(x)$  [3]

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

Two functions  $f$  and  $g$  are defined as follows:

$$f(x) = \cos x, \quad g(x) = 2x + 1$$

- (a) Find  $(g \circ f)(x)$ . [2]
- (b) Find  $(f \circ g)(x)$ . [2]
- (c) Find  $(g^{-1} \circ g)(x)$  and  $(g \circ g^{-1})(x)$ . [2]

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

Consider the functions  $f: x \mapsto 4(x - 1)$  and  $g: x \mapsto \frac{6 - x}{2}$ .

- (a) Find  $g^{-1}$ . [2]
- (b) Solve the equation  $(f \circ g^{-1})(x) = 4$ . [4]

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**22.** [Maximum mark: 5] **[without GDC]**

Let  $f(x) = x^2$  and  $g(x) = 2x - 3$ .

(a) Find  $g^{-1}(x)$ . [2]

(b) Find  $(f \circ g)(4)$ . [3]

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**23.** [Maximum mark: 5] **[without GDC]**

Let  $f(x) = 7 - 2x$  and  $g(x) = x + 3$ .

(a) Find  $(g \circ f)(x)$ . [2]

(b) Write down  $g^{-1}(x)$ . [1]

(c) Find  $(f \circ g^{-1})(5)$ . [2]

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24. [Maximum mark: 5] **[without GDC]**

Let  $f(x) = 3x$ ,  $g(x) = 2x - 5$  and  $h(x) = (f \circ g)(x)$ .

(a) Find  $h(x)$ . [2]

(b) Find  $h^{-1}(x)$ . [3]

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25. [Maximum mark: 6] **[with GDC]**

Let  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$ , and  $g(x) = 2^x$ .

(a) Find  $(f^{-1} \circ g)(x)$  [4]

(b) Solve the equation  $(f^{-1} \circ g)(x) = 16$  [2]

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

Let  $f(x) = \frac{4}{x+2}$ ,  $x \neq -2$  and  $g(x) = x-1$ . If  $h = g \circ f$ , find

(a)  $h(x)$  [2]

(b)  $h^{-1}(x)$  [4]

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

Given functions  $f : x \mapsto x+1$  and  $g : x \mapsto x^3$ , find the function  $(f \circ g)^{-1}$

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29. [Maximum mark: 5] **[without GDC]**

If  $f(x) = \frac{x}{x+1}$ , for  $x \neq -1$  and  $g(x) = (f \circ f)(x)$ , find

(a)  $g(x)$ . [3]

(b)  $(g \circ g)(2)$ . [2]

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30. [Maximum mark: 5] **[without GDC]**

The function  $f$  is defined as  $f(x) = \frac{3x-4}{x+2}$ ,  $x \neq -2$ .

(a) Find an expression for  $f^{-1}(x)$ . [4]

(b) Write down the domain of  $f^{-1}$ . [1]

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**31\*** [Maximum mark: 9] *[with / without GDC]*

The function  $f$  is given by  $f(x) = x^2 - 6x + 13$ , for  $x \geq 3$ .

- (a) Show that  $f$  may also be written in the form  $f(x) = (x - 3)^2 + 4$ . [2]
- (b) **Hence** find the inverse function  $f^{-1}$ . [3]
- (c) State the domain and the range of  $f$ . [2]
- (d) State the domain and the range of  $f^{-1}$ . [2]

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**32\***. [Maximum mark: 7] **[without GDC]**

The functions  $f$  and  $g$  are both defined in the interval  $[-4,4]$  and  $g$  is invertible.

Some values of the functions are given below.

$x$	1	3	4
$f(x)$	3	2	1

$x$	1	3	4
$g(x)$	4	1	-3

- (a) Calculate  $(f \circ f)(1)$ . [2]
- (b) Calculate  $(g^{-1} \circ f)(4)$ . [2]
- (c) Find a solution of the equation  $(f \circ g)(x) = 1$ . [2]
- (d) Calculate  $(g^{-1} \circ g)(2)$ . [1]

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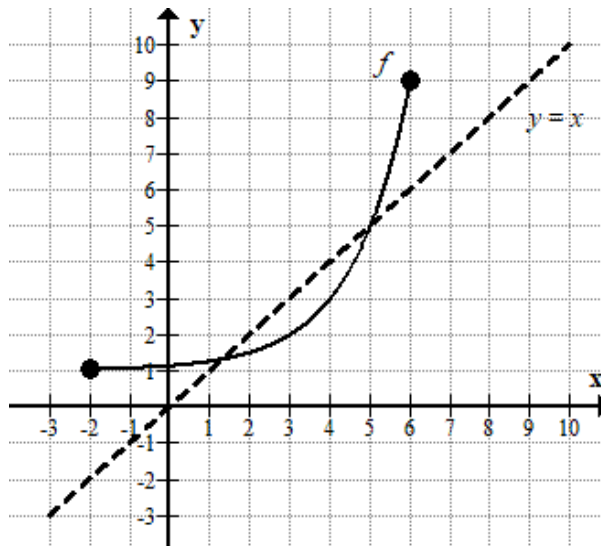
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**33.** [Maximum mark: 4] **[without GDC]**

The graph of the function  $f$  is shown below. On the same diagram sketch the graph of the function  $f^{-1}$ .



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

The functions  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  are given by  $f(x) = \sqrt{x-2}$  and  $g(x) = x^2 + x$ .

The function  $(f \circ g)(x)$  is defined for  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , **except** for the interval  $]a, b[$

(a) Calculate the value of  $a$  and of  $b$ . [5]

(b) Find the range of  $f \circ g$ . [1]

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**35\*\***. [Maximum mark: 5] **[with GDC]**

Consider the functions

$$f(x) = 3x^2 - 12x + 7, x \geq a \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = 3x^2 - 12x + 7, x \leq b.$$

(a) Given that  $f^{-1}$ ,  $g^{-1}$  exist, find  
(i) the smallest possible value of  $a$ .      (ii) the largest possible value of  $b$ . [3]

(b) Within the domains determined in (a), find  
(i)  $f^{-1}(7)$ .      (ii)  $g^{-1}(7)$  [2]

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**36\***. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

The function  $f$  is defined by  $f : x \mapsto x^3 - 1$

(a) Find  $g(x)$  given that  $(f \circ g)(x) = 2x + 1$ ; [3]

(b) Find  $g(x)$  given that  $(g \circ f)(x) = 2x + 1$ . [3]

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**37\*\***. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two functions. Given that  $(f \circ g)(x) = \frac{x+1}{2}$  and  $g(x) = 2x - 1$ ,  
find  $f(x - 3)$ .

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**38\***. [Maximum mark: 6] **[without GDC]**

The function  $f$  is defined for  $x \leq 0$  by  $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 1}{x^2 + 1}$ . Find an expression for  $f^{-1}(x)$ .

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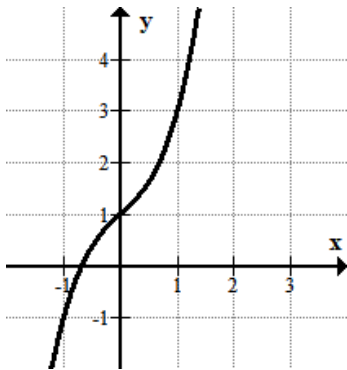
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**39\*\***. [Maximum mark: 6] **[with GDC]**

The following diagram shows part of the graph of  $f(x) = x^3 + x + 1$



- (a) Find (i)  $f^{-1}(1)$     (ii)  $f^{-1}(0)$     (iii)  $f^{-1}(2)$ . [3]
- (b) Solve  $f(x) = f^{-1}(x)$ . [3]

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

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

The function  $f$  is given by  $f(x) = 2x^2 - 8x + 1$  for  $x \leq 2$ .

- (a) Find  $(f \circ f)(0)$ . [2]
- (b) Express the function in the form  $f(x) = a(x - h)^2 + k$ . [3]
- (c) State the range of  $f$ . [1]
- (d) Find the inverse function  $f^{-1}$ . [4]
- (e) State the domain and the range of  $f^{-1}$ . [2]

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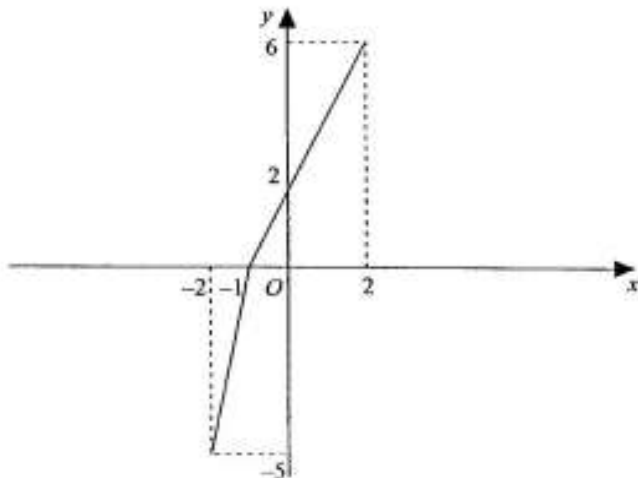


41. [Maximum mark: 10] **[without GDC]**

The function  $f(x)$  is defined by  $f(x) = \frac{3x-1}{x-3}$ ,  $x \neq 3$ .

- (a) Show that  $f$  is a self-inverse function, that is  $f^{-1} = f$  [4]  
 (b) **Hence** find, in terms of  $k$ , the value of  $(f \circ f)(k)$ , where  $k \neq 3$ . [1]

The figure below shows a sketch of a one-to-one function  $g(x)$  defined over the domain  $-2 \leq x \leq 2$ . The graph of  $y = g(x)$  consists of two straight line segments and the range of  $g(x)$  is  $-5 \leq g(x) \leq 6$ .



- (c) Find the value of  $(f \circ g)(-2)$ . [2]  
 (d) On the same diagram above, sketch the graph of the inverse function  $y = g^{-1}(x)$  and state its domain. [3]

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**42\*\***. [Maximum mark: 13] ***[without GDC]***

(a) The function  $f$  is defined by  $f(x) = (x+2)^2 - 3$ .

The function  $g$  is defined by  $g(x) = ax + b$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are constants.

Find the value of  $a$ ,  $a > 0$  and the corresponding value of  $b$ , such that

$$f(g(x)) = 4x^2 + 6x - \frac{3}{4}. \quad [8]$$

(b) The functions  $h$  and  $k$  are defined by  $h(x) = 5x + 2$  and  $k(x) = cx^2 - x + 2$  respectively. Find the value of  $c$  are such that  $h(k(x))$  has equal roots. [5]

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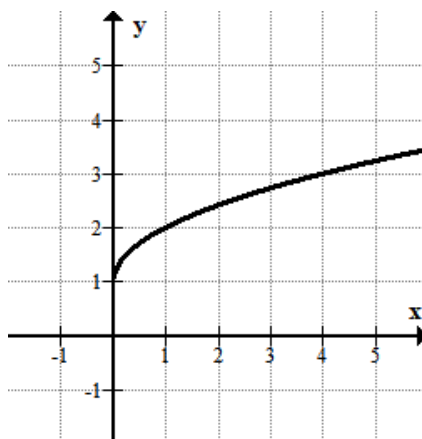
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44\*\*. [Maximum mark: 11] *[without GDC]*

The following diagram shows part of the graph of the function  $f$  is defined by

$$f(x) = 1 + \sqrt{x}, \text{ for } x \geq 0$$



- (a) Find an expression for  $f^{-1}(x)$ . [3]
- (b) State the domain and the range of  $f^{-1}(x)$ . [2]
- (c) On the same diagram above sketch the graph of  $f^{-1}(x)$ . [2]
- (d) Find the **exact** value of the solution of the equation  $f(x) = f^{-1}(x)$ . [4]

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