

1a. Prove that the equation  $3x^2 + 2kx + k - 1 = 0$  has two distinct real roots for all values of  $k \in \mathbb{R}$ . [4 marks]

1b. Find the value of  $k$  for which the two roots of the equation are closest together. [3 marks]

2. One root of the equation  $x^2 + ax + b = 0$  is  $2 + 3i$  where  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ . Find the value of  $a$  and the value of  $b$ . [4 marks]

3. The roots of a quadratic equation  $2x^2 + 4x - 1 = 0$  are  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . [6 marks]  
Without solving the equation,  
(a) find the value of  $\alpha^2 + \beta^2$ ;  
(b) find a quadratic equation with roots  $\alpha^2$  and  $\beta^2$ .

4. Show that the quadratic equation  $x^2 - (5 - k)x - (k + 2) = 0$  has two distinct real roots for all real values of  $k$ . [4 marks]

5. One form of *Schwarz's Inequality* states that for any 4 real numbers  $p$ ,  $q$ ,  $r$ , and  $s$ ,

$$pr + qs \leq \sqrt{p^2 + q^2} \cdot \sqrt{r^2 + s^2}.$$

Prove Schwarz's Inequality using the following steps.

- a. Let  $f(x) = (px + r)^2 + (qx + s)^2$ . Explain why, for any real number  $x$ ,  $f(x) \geq 0$ .
- b. Expand  $f(x)$ , and express the discriminant of  $f(x) = 0$  in terms of  $p$ ,  $q$ ,  $r$ , and  $s$ . (Leave your answer in factored form.)
- c. What does the fact that  $f(x) \geq 0$  tell you about where the graph of  $y = f(x)$  is situated in relation to the  $x$ -axis? What does this tell you about the roots of the equation  $f(x) = 0$ ? What does it therefore tell you about the discriminant of the equation  $f(x) = 0$ ?
- d. Use your answer to the last question of part (c) to prove Schwarz's Inequality.