

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE  
Mathematics: applications and interpretation

**MAI**

**EXERCISES [MAI 1.8]**  
**COMPLEX NUMBERS (CARTESIAN FORM)**  
*Compiled by Christos Nikolaidis*

**A. Paper 1 questions (SHORT)**

1. [Maximum mark: 7]

Let  $f(z) = z^2 - 8z + 20$ .

- (a) Find the discriminant  $\Delta$  of the quadratic function  $f$ . [2]
- (b) Find the complex roots of the equation  $f(z) = 0$  in the form  $z = a \pm bi$  by using the formula  $z = \frac{-b \pm i\sqrt{|\Delta|}}{2a}$  [3]
- (c) Use factorisation to express  $f$  in the form  $f(z) = (z - h)^2 + k$ . [2]

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3. [Maximum mark: 6]

Find **analytically**

(a)  $(1 - i\sqrt{3})^2$  in the form  $a + bi$ , where  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . [3]

(b)  $(1 - i\sqrt{3})^3$ . [3]

[Confirm the results by your GDC]

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4. [Maximum mark: 6]

Let the complex number  $z$  be given by  $z = 1 + \frac{i}{i - \sqrt{3}}$ .

Express  $z$  **analytically** in the form  $a + bi$ , giving the **exact** values of  $a, b$ .

[Confirm the result by your GDC]

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5. [Maximum mark: 5]

Let  $z = \frac{2}{1-i} + 1 - 4i$ , Express  $z^2$  in the form  $x + yi$  where  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Show **analytically** your work.

[Confirm the result by your GDC]

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6. [Maximum mark: 4]

(a) Given that  $(a - 2) + 3i = 7 + (b - 1)i$ , find the value of  $a$  and of  $b$ , where  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ . [2]

(b) Given that  $(c - 2) + (d - 1)i = 0$ , find the value of  $c$  and of  $d$ , where  $c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$ . [2]

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8. [Maximum mark: 6]

Given that  $(a+i)(2-bi) = 7-i$ , find the value of  $a$  and of  $b$ , where  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

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9. [Maximum mark: 6]

Consider the equation  $2(p+iq) = q-ip-2(1-i)$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are both real numbers. Find  $p$  and  $q$ .

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10. [Maximum mark: 4]

Let  $z = x + yi$ . Find the values of  $x$  and  $y$  if  $(1 - i)z = 1 - 3i$ .

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11. [Maximum mark: 4]

Find the values of  $a$  and  $b$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are real, given that  $(a + bi)(2 - i) = 5 - i$ .

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13. [Maximum mark: 6]

The two complex numbers  $z_1 = \frac{a}{1+i}$  and  $z_2 = \frac{b}{1-2i}$  where  $a, b \in R$ , are such that  $z_1 + z_2 = 3$ . Calculate the value of  $a$  and of  $b$ .

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14. [Maximum mark: 5]

The complex number  $z$  satisfies  $i(z+2) = 1-2z$ . Write  $z$  in the form  $z = a + bi$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are real numbers.

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