

1. $g(x) = (2 + ax)^8$ 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)

a)

By the binomial expansion, the x^5 term is :

BINOMIAL SERIES :

$$\binom{8}{5} x^2 \cdot 2^{8-5} (ax)^5$$

$$(a+b)^n = a^n + \binom{n}{1} a^{n-1} b + \dots + b^n$$

$$= \frac{8!}{5!(8-5)!} \times 2^3 \times a^5 x^5$$

where : $\binom{n}{r} = {}^n C_r = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$

$$= 448 a^5 x^5 = 3402 x^5$$

$$= 448 a^5 = 3402$$

$$a^5 = \frac{3402}{448} = \frac{243}{32}$$

$$a = \sqrt[5]{\frac{243}{32}}$$

$$a = \frac{3}{2}$$

b)

The first constant is 2^8 (the constant of the expansion $\times 1$) = 256.

The second constant is the x^4 term of the expansion $\times \frac{1}{x^4}$ term.

$$= {}^8C_4 \times 2^4 a^4 = 70 \times 16 \times \frac{181}{16} = 5670$$

The constant term is $256 + 5670 = 5926$

2. (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)

$$\text{a) } \left(3 - \frac{2x}{9}\right)^8 = \binom{8}{0} (3)^8 \left(-\frac{2x}{9}\right)^0 + \binom{8}{1} (3)^7 \left(-\frac{2x}{9}\right)^1 + \dots$$

$$\binom{8}{2} (3)^6 \left(-\frac{2x}{9}\right)^2 + \binom{8}{3} (3)^5 \left(-\frac{2x}{9}\right)^3 + \dots$$

$$= 6561 - 3888x + 1008x^2 - \frac{488}{3}x^3 + \dots$$

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

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

$$\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2x}\right)\left(6561 - 3888x + 1008x^2 - \frac{488}{3}x^3 + \dots\right)$$

$$\text{coefficient of } x^2 : \left(\frac{1}{2} \times 1008\right) + \left(-\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{488}{3}\right)$$

$$= 504 + \frac{244}{3}$$

$$= \frac{1756}{3}$$

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

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

Since the first term is $(5 + 8x^2)$, we need term of x^5 and x^3 from the second term to find the coefficient of x^5 from the expansion.

$$= 5 \times x^5 \text{ term}$$

$$= 8x^2 \times x^3 \text{ term}$$

$$x^5 \text{ term} : {}^6C_5 \times 3^1 \left(-\frac{1}{2}x\right)^5 = -\frac{9}{16}x^5$$

$$x^3 \text{ term} : {}^6C_3 \times 3^3 \left(-\frac{1}{2}x\right)^3 = -\frac{135}{2}x^3$$

coefficient of x^5 in the expansion :

$$\left(5 \times -\frac{9}{16}x^5\right) + \left(8x^2 \times -\frac{135}{2}x^3\right)$$

$$= -\frac{45}{16}x^5 + (-540x^5)$$

$$= \left(-\frac{45}{16} - 540\right)x^5$$

$$= -\frac{8685}{16}$$