Questions

Q1.

A car has six forward gears.

The fastest speed of the car

- in 1st gear is 28 km h^{-1}
- in 6th gear is 115 km h^{-1}

Given that the fastest speed of the car in successive gears is modelled by an **arithmetic sequence**,

(a) find the fastest speed of the car in 3rd gear.

(3)

Given that the fastest speed of the car in successive gears is modelled by a **geometric sequence**,

(b) find the fastest speed of the car in 5th gear.

(3)

(Total for question = 6 marks)

Q2.

In an arithmetic series

- the first term is 16
- the 21st term is 24

(a) Find the common difference of the series.

(2)

(b) Hence find the sum of the first 500 terms of the series.

(2)

(Total for question = 4 marks)

Mark Scheme

Q1.

Question	Scheme	Marks	AOs
(a)	Uses $115 = 28 + 5d \Rightarrow d = (17.4)$	M1	3.1b
	Uses $28 + 2 \times "17.4" = ...$	M1	3.4
	$= 62.8$ (km h^{-1})	A1	1.1b
		(3)	
(b)	Uses $115 = 28r^5 \Rightarrow r = (1.3265)$	M1	3.1b
	Uses $28 \times "1.3265^4" = ...$ or $\frac{115}{"1.3265"}$	M1	3.4
	$= 86.7$ (km h^{-1})	A1	1.1b
		(3)	
			(6 marks)

Notes:

(a)

M1: Translates the problem into maths using n^{th} term $= a + (n-1)d$ and attempts to find d

Look for either $115 = 28 + 5d \Rightarrow d = ...$ or an attempt at $\frac{115 - 28}{5}$ condoning slips

It is implied by use of $d = 17.4$ Note that $115 = 28 + 6d \Rightarrow d = ...$ is M0

M1: Uses the model to find the fastest speed the car can go in 3rd gear using $28 + 2"d"$ or equivalent.

This can be awarded following an incorrect method of finding $"d"$

A1: 62.8 km/ h Lack of units are condoned. Allow exact alternatives such as $\frac{314}{5}$

(b)

M1: Translates the problem into maths using n^{th} term $= ar^{n-1}$ and attempts to find r

It must use the 1st and 6th gear and not the 3rd gear found in part (a)

Look for either $115 = 28r^5 \Rightarrow r = ...$ o.e. or $\sqrt[5]{\frac{115}{28}}$ condoning slips.

It is implied by stating or using $r =$ awrt 1.33

M1: Uses the model to find the fastest speed the car can go in 5th gear using $28 \times "r^4"$ or $\frac{115}{"r"}$ o.e.

This can be awarded following an incorrect method of finding $"r"$

A common misread seems to be finding the fastest speed the car can go in 3rd gear as in (a).

Providing it is clear what has been done, e.g. $u_3 = 28 \times "r^2"$ it can be awarded this mark.

A1: awrt 86.7 km/h Lack of units are condoned. Expressions must be evaluated.

Q2.

Question	Scheme	Marks	AOs
(a)	$16+(21-1)\times d=24\Rightarrow d=...$	M1	1.1b
	$d=0.4$	A1	1.1b
	Answer only scores both marks.		
		(2)	
(b)	$S_n=\frac{1}{2}n\{2a+(n-1)d\}\Rightarrow S_{500}=\frac{1}{2}\times 500\{2\times 16+499\times "0.4"\}$	M1	1.1b
	$=57900$	A1	1.1b
	Answer only scores both marks		
		(2)	
	(b) Alternative using $S_n=\frac{1}{2}n\{a+l\}$		
	$l=16+(500-1)\times "0.4"=215.6\Rightarrow S_{500}=\frac{1}{2}\times 500\{16+"215.6"\}$	M1	1.1b
	$=57900$	A1	1.1b
			(4 marks)

Notes

(a)

M1: Correct strategy to find the common difference – must be a correct method using $a = 16$, and $n = 21$ and the 24. The method may be implied by their working.
If the AP term formula is quoted it must be correct, so use of e.g. $u_n=a+nd$ scores M0

A1: Correct value. Accept equivalents e.g. $\frac{8}{20}, \frac{4}{10}, \frac{2}{5}$ etc.

(b)

M1: Attempts to use a correct sum formula with $a = 16$, $n = 500$ and their numerical d from part (a)
If a formula is quoted it must be correct (it is in the formula book)

A1: Correct value

Alternative:

M1: Correct method for the 500^{th} term and then uses $S_n=\frac{1}{2}n\{a+l\}$ with their l

A1: Correct value

Note that some candidates are showing implied use of $u_n=a+nd$ by showing the following:

(a) $d=\frac{24-16}{21}=\frac{8}{21}$ (b) $S_{500}=\frac{1}{2}\times 500\left\{2\times 16+499\times\frac{8}{21}\right\}=55523.80952...$

This scores (a) M0A0 (b) M1A0