

# WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

TWELFTH ANNUAL INVITATIONAL MATH MEET

OCTOBER 21, 1999

## INDIVIDUAL EXAM QUESTION SHEET

**DIRECTIONS:** Please write your answers on the Individual Answer Sheet provided. This part of the contest is 30 minutes. Each correct answer to questions 1-4 is worth 1 point, to questions 5-8 is worth 2 points and to questions 9-11 is worth 3 points. Calculators **MAY NOT** be used.

- 1 For what real values of  $x$  does the following identity hold?

$$\sqrt{x + 2\sqrt{x-1}} + \sqrt{x - 2\sqrt{x-1}} = 2\sqrt{x-1}$$

- 2 Solve for  $t$  so that

$$\frac{9^{n+2} + 81^{2n}27^{1-2n}}{\sqrt[3]{8^23^{6n}}} = 3^t$$

- 3 Alice says she has twice as many brothers as sisters, but her brother has twice as many sisters as he has brothers. How many sisters does Alice have?

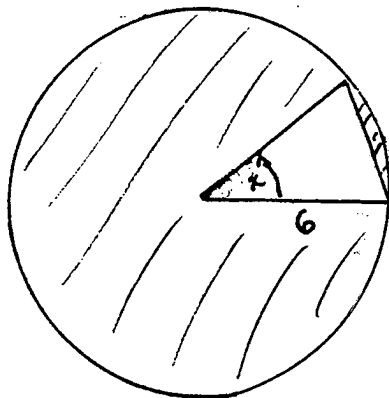
- 4 Find the smallest positive integer in the set

$$\{96x - 270y \mid x, y \text{ are integers}\}$$

5 If  $\tan(\alpha) + \cot(\alpha) = m$ , express  $\tan^4(\alpha) + \cot^4(\alpha)$  in terms of  $m$ .

6 Consider the parabola  $y = \frac{1}{8}x^2$ . A ray comes down vertically, parallel to the  $y$  axis, and reflects off the parabola at the point whose  $x$  coordinate is 3. What is the  $x$  coordinate of the point where it strikes the parabola a second time?

7 In the following diagram, which is **not** drawn to scale, the shaded area is  $32\pi$ . What is  $\sin(x)$ ?



8 Consider a triangle in the coordinate plane with vertices  $(1, 1)$ ,  $(2, 3)$  and  $(x, 2)$  where  $x > 1$ . What is the area of the triangle?

9] Let  $a = \underbrace{1111 \dots 1111}_{1998 \text{ digits}}$  and  $b = \underbrace{2222 \dots 2222}_{999 \text{ digits}}$ . Compute  $\sqrt{a - b}$

10] If a baseball team has a probability  $P$  of beating its opponent in any one game, independently of what happens in any other games, what is the probability it wins a 5 game series? (a winner is the first team to win 3 games)

11] Consider a circle with  $n$  points on its boundary. How many possible points of intersection are there between the chords inside the circle? Assume that no three chords intersect at the same point.

NAME Answers- Individual

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

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QUESTION	ANSWER	SCORE	QUESTION	ANSWER	SCORE
1	$x > 1$		5	$m^4 - 4m^2 + 2$	
2	$t = 3$		6	$-\frac{16}{3}$	
3	1		7	$\frac{2\pi}{9}$	
4	6		8	$ x - \frac{3}{2} $ or $ \frac{3}{2} - x $	
# CORRECT $\times$ 1 =			# CORRECT $\times$ 2 =		

QUESTION	ANSWER	SCORE
9	$\underbrace{333 \dots 333}_{999 \text{ digits}}$	
10	$6P^5 - 15P^4 + 10P^3$	
11	$\binom{n}{4} = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)}{4!}$	
# CORRECT $\times$ 3 =		

**Individual Total**