

**WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE  
THIRTIETH INVITATIONAL MATH MEET  
OCTOBER 17, 2017  
INDIVIDUAL EXAM QUESTION SHEET WITH ANSWERS**

**DIRECTIONS:** Please write your answers on the Individual Answer Sheet provided. This part of the contest is 45 minutes long. Questions 1-4 are each worth 1 point. Questions 5-8 are each worth 2 points. Questions 9-11 are each worth 3 points. Calculators and other electronics **MAY NOT** be used.

1. Simplify  $\sqrt{-9} + \sqrt{-16}$  Ans:  $7i$
  
2. Factor  $2x^3 - x^2 - 8x - 5$  Ans:  $(2x - 5)(x + 1)^2$
  
3. Convert the base 10 number  $29\frac{13}{64}$  to binary Ans:  $11101.001101_2$
  
4. What is  $\cos(179\pi/6)$ ? Ans:  $\sqrt{3}/2$
  
5. If  $f(x) = (3x - 2)/(x + 1)$  what is the inverse function  $f^{-1}(x)$ ? Ans:  $(2 + x)/(3 - x)$
  
6. Find  $x$  such that  $\sqrt{x + 23} + \sqrt{x} = 23$  Ans:  $x = 121$
  
7. What is the units digit of the number  $1 + 9 + 9^2 + 9^3 + \dots + 9^{1988} + 9^{1989}$ ? Ans:  $0$
  
8. Solve for  $x$ :  $(\log_{10} x)^3 = \log_{10} x^4$  Ans:  $100, 1/100, 1$

9. 5 years ago, the ratio of a father's and his son's ages was 3:1.  
15 years from now, the ratio will be 2:1.

What is the father's current age?

Ans: 65

10. Find any x which satisfies

$$\left(\frac{1}{25}\right)^x (125)^{x^2} = (125)^x \left(\frac{1}{25}\right)$$

Ans:  $x = 1, 2/3$

11. Simplify  $\log_{10}((\sqrt[3]{5})^{\sqrt{18}} (\sqrt{20})^{\sqrt{8}})$

Ans:  $2\sqrt{2}$