

**Answer Key:**

1. C
2. B
3. D
4. D
5. B
6. A
7. D
8. E
9. D
10. E
11. C
12. C
13. B
14. A
15. B
16. D
17. B
18. A
19. B
20. D
21. D
22. B
23. D
24. B
25. D
26. B
27. C
28. A
29. D
30. C

## Solutions:

1. **C**: To evaluate  $f(f(4))$  where  $f(x) = (x - 2)^2 + 1$ :

Step 1: Find  $f(4)$   $f(4) = (4 - 2)^2 + 1 = 2^2 + 1 = 4 + 1 = 5$

Step 2: Find  $f(f(4))$ , which means  $f(5)$   $f(5) = (5 - 2)^2 + 1 = 3^2 + 1 = 9 + 1 = 10$

Therefore,  $f(f(4)) = 10$

2. **B**: To find the value of  $\sin \theta + \cos \theta$  where  $\theta = -\frac{\pi}{4}$ :

Step 1: Calculate  $\sin \theta$

$\sin\left(-\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = -\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)$  (using the property  $\sin(-x) = -\sin(x)$ )

$\sin\left(-\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$

Step 2: Calculate  $\cos \theta$

$\cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)$  (using the property  $\cos(-x) = \cos(x)$ )

$\cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$

Step 3: Find  $\sin \theta + \cos \theta$

$\sin\left(-\frac{\pi}{4}\right) + \cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} = 0$

Therefore,  $\sin \theta + \cos \theta = 0$

3. **D**: From the problem statement:  $r = (\text{cost for 3 months}) - 2600$

Since the cost for 3 months would be  $3r$ :

$$r = 3r - 2600$$

Solving for  $r$ :

$$r - 3r = -2600$$

$$-2r = -2600$$

$$r = 1300$$

So the monthly rent is \$1300.

Therefore, the cost to rent the apartment for a year would be:

$$12 \cdot 1300 = 15,600$$

4. **D**: To evaluate  $\cos^{-1}\left(\cos\left(-\frac{11\pi}{12}\right)\right)$ :

Step 1: Simplify the inner expression using the even property of cosine.

$$\cos\left(-\frac{11\pi}{12}\right) = \cos\left(\frac{11\pi}{12}\right) \text{ (since } \cos(-\theta) = \cos(\theta)\text{)}$$

Step 2: Apply the inverse cosine function.

When applying  $\cos^{-1}$  to  $\cos(\theta)$ , we get the principal value in the range  $[0, \pi]$ .

Since  $\frac{11\pi}{12}$  is already in the range  $[0, \pi]$ , we have:

$$\cos^{-1}\left(\cos\left(\frac{11\pi}{12}\right)\right) = \frac{11\pi}{12}$$

Therefore:

$$\cos^{-1}\left(\cos\left(-\frac{11\pi}{12}\right)\right) = \frac{11\pi}{12}$$

5. **B**: To find the value of  $A - B$  from the given sequences:

Step 1: Identify the patterns in the sequences.

Sequence A consists of the first 100 even numbers (from 2 to 200)

Sequence B consists of the first 100 natural numbers (from 1 to 100)

Step 2: Calculate the sum of sequence A.

For the sum of the first  $n$  even numbers, we can use the formula  $n(n + 1)$  where  $n = 100$ :

$$A = 100 \cdot 101 = 10,100$$

Step 3: Calculate the sum of sequence B.

For the sum of the first  $n$  natural numbers, we can use the formula  $\frac{n(n+1)}{2}$  where  $n = 100$ :

$$B = \frac{100 \cdot 101}{2} = 5,050$$

Step 4: Find the difference  $A - B$ .

$$A - B = 10,100 - 5,050 = 5,050$$

Alternatively, note that sequence A can be written as  $2(1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + 100) = 2B$

Therefore,  $A - B = 2B - B = B = 5,050$

6. **A**: To find an angle that is coterminal with  $-\frac{\pi}{6}$ , identify which of the given options differs from  $-\frac{\pi}{6}$  by an integer multiple of  $2\pi$ .

Let me check each option:

$$-\frac{433\pi}{6}: \\ -\frac{433\pi}{6} - \left(-\frac{\pi}{6}\right) = -\frac{433\pi}{6} + \frac{\pi}{6} = -\frac{432\pi}{6} = -72\pi = -36 \cdot 2\pi$$

Since this difference is an integer multiple of  $2\pi$ , option (A) is coterminal with  $-\frac{\pi}{6}$ .

$$-\frac{103\pi}{6}: \\ -\frac{103\pi}{6} - \left(-\frac{\pi}{6}\right) = -\frac{103\pi}{6} + \frac{\pi}{6} = -\frac{102\pi}{6} = -17\pi$$

Since  $-17\pi$  is not an integer multiple of  $2\pi$ , this angle is not coterminal with  $-\frac{\pi}{6}$ .

$$\frac{67\pi}{3}: \\ \frac{67\pi}{3} - \left(-\frac{\pi}{6}\right) = \frac{67\pi}{3} + \frac{\pi}{6} = \frac{134\pi + \pi}{6} = \frac{135\pi}{6} = \frac{45\pi}{2}$$

Since  $\frac{45\pi}{2}$  is not an integer multiple of  $2\pi$ , this angle is not coterminal with  $-\frac{\pi}{6}$ .

$$-\frac{383\pi}{6}: \\ -\frac{383\pi}{6} - \left(-\frac{\pi}{6}\right) = -\frac{383\pi}{6} + \frac{\pi}{6} = -\frac{382\pi}{6}$$

To check if this is a multiple of  $2\pi$ , I'll divide by  $2\pi$ :

$$-\frac{382\pi}{6} \div 2\pi = -\frac{382}{12} = -\frac{191}{6}$$

Since  $-\frac{191}{6}$  is not an integer, this angle is not coterminal with  $-\frac{\pi}{6}$ .

Therefore,  $-\frac{433\pi}{6}$  is coterminal with  $-\frac{\pi}{6}$ .

7. **D**: To evaluate  $(\vec{v} \cdot \vec{v}) \cdot (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u})$  where  $\vec{v} = \langle 4, 5, -6 \rangle$  and  $\vec{u} = \langle -3, 2, 1 \rangle$ :

Step 1: Calculate  $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{v}$ .

$$\vec{v} \cdot \vec{v} = 4^2 + 5^2 + (-6)^2 = 16 + 25 + 36 = 77$$

Step 2: Calculate  $\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}$ .

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u} = (-3)^2 + 2^2 + 1^2 = 9 + 4 + 1 = 14$$

Step 3: Calculate the final expression.

$$(\vec{v} \cdot \vec{v}) \cdot (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}) = 77 \cdot 14 = 1078$$

Therefore,  $(\vec{v} \cdot \vec{v}) \cdot (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{u}) = 1078$

8. **E**: To evaluate  $\left(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}i\right)^3$ :

Step 1: Express the complex number in polar form. For the given complex number  $z = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}i$ , we can recognize that  $|z| = 1$  and  $\arg(z) = \frac{3\pi}{4}$ .

$$\text{Therefore, } z = 1 \cdot \left(\cos \frac{3\pi}{4} + i \sin \frac{3\pi}{4}\right)$$

Step 2: Apply De Moivre's formula:  $z^n = r^n(\cos(n\theta) + i \sin(n\theta))$

$$z^3 = 1^3 \cdot \left(\cos\left(3 \cdot \frac{3\pi}{4}\right) + i \sin\left(3 \cdot \frac{3\pi}{4}\right)\right) \\ = \cos\left(\frac{9\pi}{4}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{9\pi}{4}\right)$$

Step 3: Simplify by noting that  $\frac{9\pi}{4} = \frac{\pi}{4} + 2\pi$ , and since the trig functions repeat every  $2\pi$ :

$$z^3 = \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) \\ = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}i$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \left(-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}i\right)^3 = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}i$$

9. **D**: To find the probability that a person who thinks their job will be replaced by A.I. also thinks their job will be replaced by robots:

This is a conditional probability problem where we need to find  $P(\text{Robots} \mid \text{A.I.})$ .

Step 1: Identify the relevant counts from the survey data.

- Total people surveyed: 120
- People who think A.I. will replace their job: 60
- People who think both A.I. and robots will replace their job: 20

Step 2: Calculate the conditional probability using the formula:

$$P(\text{Robots} \mid \text{A.I.}) = \frac{P(\text{Robots} \cap \text{A.I.})}{P(\text{A.I.})} = \frac{\text{Number who think both A.I. and robots}}{\text{Number who think A.I.}}$$

Step 3: Substitute the values:

$$P(\text{Robots} \mid \text{A.I.}) = \frac{20}{60} = \frac{1}{3}$$

Therefore, the probability that a person who thinks their job will be replaced by A.I. also thinks their job will be replaced by robots is  $\frac{1}{3}$ .

10. **E**: To find the probability that a randomly selected person thinks that neither their job will be replaced by A.I. nor will be replaced by robots:

Step 1: Identify the relevant information from the survey data.

- Total people surveyed: 120
- People who think A.I. will replace their job: 60
- People who think robots will replace their job: 50
- People who think both A.I. and robots will replace their job: 20

Step 2: Calculate the total number of people who think at least one (A.I. or robots) will replace their job using the principle of inclusion-exclusion.

$$\text{Number who think at least one will replace their job} = (\text{A.I.}) + (\text{Robots}) - (\text{Both})$$

$$\text{Number who think at least one will replace their job} = 60 + 50 - 20 = 90$$

Step 3: Calculate the number of people who think neither will replace their job.

$$\text{Number who think neither will replace their job} = \text{Total} - \text{Number who think at least one will replace their job}$$

$$\text{Number who think neither will replace their job} = 120 - 90 = 30$$

Step 4: Calculate the probability by dividing by the total number of people surveyed.

$$P(\text{Neither}) = \frac{30}{120} = \frac{1}{4}$$

Therefore, the probability that a randomly selected person thinks that neither their job will be replaced by A.I. nor by robots is  $\frac{1}{4}$ .

11. **C**: To find the coefficient of the  $x$  term in the expansion of  $(x^3 + \frac{2}{x})^7$ :

Step 1: Use the binomial theorem to expand  $(x^3 + \frac{2}{x})^7$ :

$$(x^3 + \frac{2}{x})^7 = \sum_{k=0}^7 \binom{7}{k} (x^3)^{7-k} (\frac{2}{x})^k$$

Step 2: Find which term has the power of  $x^1$  by solving:

$$(x^3)^{7-k} (\frac{2}{x})^k = x^1 \Rightarrow 3(7-k) + (-1)k = 1 \text{ (from exponent rules)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 21 - 4k &= 1 \\ -4k &= -20 \\ k &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

Step 3: Calculate the coefficient when  $k = 5$ :

$$\binom{7}{5}(x^3)^2\left(\frac{2}{x}\right)^5 = \binom{7}{5} \cdot 2^5 \cdot x^1$$

Step 4: Evaluate this coefficient:

$$\binom{7}{5} = \frac{7!}{5!(7-5)!} = \frac{7!}{5!2!} = \frac{7 \cdot 6}{2 \cdot 1} = 21$$

$$\binom{7}{5} \cdot 2^5 = 21 \cdot 32 = 672$$

Therefore, the coefficient of the  $x$  term in the expansion of  $(x^3 + \frac{2}{x})^7$  is 672.

12. **C**: To find the domain of  $f(g(x))$  if  $f(x) = \sqrt{x^2 - 64}$  and  $g(x) = \ln(x - 2)$ :

Step 1: Find the domain of  $g(x) = \ln(x - 2)$ .

For the natural logarithm to be defined, we need:

$$x - 2 > 0$$

$$x > 2$$

So the domain of  $g$  is  $(2, \infty)$

Step 2: Find the domain of  $f(x) = \sqrt{x^2 - 64}$ .

For the square root to be defined, we need:

$$x^2 - 64 \geq 0$$

$$x^2 \geq 64$$

$$|x| \geq 8$$

$$x \leq -8 \text{ or } x \geq 8$$

So the domain of  $f$  is  $(-\infty, -8] \cup [8, \infty)$

Step 3: For the composition  $f(g(x))$ , we need:

- $x$  must be in the domain of  $g$ , so  $x > 2$
- $g(x)$  must be in the domain of  $f$ , so either:
  - $g(x) \leq -8$  or  $g(x) \geq 8$
  - That is:  $\ln(x - 2) \leq -8$  or  $\ln(x - 2) \geq 8$

Step 4: Solve these inequalities:

For  $\ln(x - 2) \geq 8$ :

$$x - 2 \geq e^8$$

$$x \geq e^8 + 2$$

For  $\ln(x - 2) \leq -8$ :

$$x - 2 \leq e^{-8}$$

$$x \leq e^{-8} + 2$$

Since we already know  $x > 2$ , this gives us a very narrow range  $(2, e^{-8} + 2]$ .

Therefore, the complete domain of  $f(g(x))$  is  $(2, e^{-8} + 2] \cup [e^8 + 2, \infty)$

13. **B**: To identify an equation that represents the graph shown:

Given the graph with these characteristics:

- Horizontal lines at  $y = 0$ ,  $y = 1$ , and  $y = 3$
- At  $x = 0$ , the graph value is  $y = 1$
- The slope of the graph at  $x=0$  is positive
- The crests of the graph align perfectly along  $y = 1$  and  $y = 3$
- The entire graph lies above the  $x$ -axis

Whichever option matches all these features is the correct graph.

Step 1: Analyze the value at  $x = 0$  for each function.

- If a function gives  $y = 1$  at  $x = 0$ , it remains a candidate
- Any function that gives a different value at  $x = 0$  can be eliminated

Step 2: Check the slope at  $x = 0$ .

- The slope must be positive at  $x = 0$
- This can be determined by finding the derivative and evaluating it at  $x = 0$

Step 3: Verify the maximum and minimum values.

- The function should have crests at  $y = 3$
- The function should have smaller crests at  $y = 1$
- The function should never go below the  $x$ -axis

Step 4: For functions with absolute values, carefully analyze how the absolute value affects the range.

Let's evaluate  $|2 \sin x + 1|$ :

- At  $x = 0$ :  $|2 \sin(0) + 1| = |0 + 1| = 1 \checkmark$
- Slope at  $x = 0$ : The derivative is  $2 \cos(0) = 2 > 0$  (since  $2 \sin(0) + 1 > 0$ )  $\checkmark$
- Crest value: When  $\sin x = 1$ , we get  $|2(1) + 1| = |3| = 3 \checkmark$
- Smaller crest value: When  $\sin x = -1$ , we get  $|2(-1) + 1| = |-1| = 1 \checkmark$
- Range is, always above  $x$ -axis  $\checkmark$

Therefore,  $|2 \sin x + 1|$  matches all the characteristics of the given graph.

14. **A**: To find the length of side  $YZ$  in triangle  $XYZ$ :

Given:

- $XY = 8$  units
- $XZ = 6$  units
- Angle  $X = 120^\circ$

Using the Law of Cosines to find the unknown side length:

$$YZ^2 = XY^2 + XZ^2 - 2(XY)(XZ) \cos(\angle X)$$

Substituting the given values:

$$YZ^2 = 8^2 + 6^2 - 2(8)(6) \cos(120)$$

$$YZ^2 = 64 + 36 - 2(48)(-0.5)$$

$$YZ^2 = 100 + 48$$

$$YZ^2 = 148$$

$$YZ = \sqrt{148}$$

$$YZ = \sqrt{4 \cdot 37}$$

$$YZ = 2\sqrt{37}$$

Therefore, the length of side  $YZ$  is  $2\sqrt{37}$  units.

15. **B**: To find the area of triangle  $XYZ$ :

The area of a triangle can be calculated using the formula:

$$A = \frac{1}{2} \cdot ab \cdot \sin(C)$$

Where  $a$  and  $b$  are two sides, and  $C$  is the angle between them.

Substituting the given values:

$$A = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 8 \cdot 6 \cdot \sin(120)$$

$$A = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 48 \cdot \sin(120)$$

Since  $\sin(120) = \sin(180 - 60) = \sin(60) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ :

$$A = 24 \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

$$A = 12\sqrt{3}$$

Therefore, the area of triangle XYZ is  $12\sqrt{3}$  square units.

16. **D**: To find the oblique asymptote of the rational function  $\frac{2x^3 - 14x^2 + 3x - 5}{x^2 + 6}$ :

Step 1: Since the degree of the numerator (3) exceeds the degree of the denominator (2) by exactly 1, this rational function has an oblique asymptote of the form  $y = mx + b$ .

Step 2: Perform polynomial long division to find the quotient and remainder.

Dividing  $2x^3 - 14x^2 + 3x - 5$  by  $x^2 + 6$ :

$$2x^3 \div (x^2 + 6) = 2x \text{ (first term of quotient)}$$

$$2x(x^2 + 6) = 2x^3 + 12x$$

$$(2x^3 - 14x^2 + 3x - 5) - (2x^3 + 12x) = -14x^2 - 9x - 5$$

$$-14x^2 \div (x^2 + 6) = -14 \text{ (second term of quotient)}$$

$$-14(x^2 + 6) = -14x^2 - 84$$

$$(-14x^2 - 9x - 5) - (-14x^2 - 84) = -9x + 79 \text{ (remainder)}$$

Step 3: Write the function in the form of quotient plus remainder:

$$\frac{2x^3 - 14x^2 + 3x - 5}{x^2 + 6} = 2x - 14 + \frac{-9x + 79}{x^2 + 6}$$

Step 4: Identify the oblique asymptote from the quotient:

$$\text{As } x \rightarrow \pm\infty, \text{ the term } \frac{-9x + 79}{x^2 + 6} \rightarrow 0$$

Therefore, the oblique asymptote of the given rational function is  $y = 2x - 14$ .

17. **B**: To determine on which domain the function  $f(x) = x^3 - 4x$  is odd:

Step 1: Check if the function is algebraically odd by verifying if  $f(-x) = -f(x)$ .

$$f(-x) = (-x)^3 - 4(-x) = -x^3 + 4x = -(x^3 - 4x) = -f(x)$$

Since  $f(-x) = -f(x)$ , this function is algebraically odd.

Step 2: For a function to be odd on a specific domain, two conditions must be met:

- The domain must be symmetric about the origin
- Both  $x$  and  $-x$  must be in the domain for all  $x$  in the domain

Step 3: Analyze each given domain:

(A)  $(-1, 6)$

This domain is not symmetric about the origin. For example, 5 is in the domain, but  $-5$  is not.

(B)  $(-8, 8)$

This domain is symmetric about the origin. For any  $x$  in  $(-8, 8)$ ,  $-x$  is also in  $(-8, 8)$ .

(C)  $(2, 43)$

This domain contains only positive numbers (except for 0), so it's not symmetric about the origin.

(D)  $(-\infty, 500)$

This domain is not symmetric about the origin. For example, 499 is in the domain, but  $-499$  is not in the domain while 499 is not.

Therefore, the function  $f(x) = x^3 - 4x$  is odd on the domain  $(-8, 8)$ .

18. **A**: To determine on which domain the function  $f(x) = x^3 - 4x$  is monotonically decreasing:

Step 1: Identify the three intervals created by the vertices:

- Interval 1:  $x < -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$
- Interval 2:  $-\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} < x < \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$
- Interval 3:  $x > \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$

Step 2: Analyze the behavior of the function in each interval.

To determine if the function is increasing or decreasing in each interval, evaluate the function at different points.

Interval 1:  $x < -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$

Test points:  $x = -2$  and  $x = -3$

$$f(-2) = (-2)^3 - 4(-2) = -8 + 8 = 0$$

$$f(-3) = (-3)^3 - 4(-3) = -27 + 12 = -15$$

Since  $f(-3) < f(-2)$ , the function is increasing in this interval.

Interval 2:  $-\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} < x < \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$

Test points:  $x = -1$  and  $x = 0$

$$f(-1) = (-1)^3 - 4(-1) = -1 + 4 = 3$$

$$f(0) = 0^3 - 4(0) = 0$$

Since  $f(0) < f(-1)$ , the function is decreasing in this interval.

Interval 3:  $x > \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$

Test points:  $x = 2$  and  $x = 3$

$$f(2) = 2^3 - 4(2) = 8 - 8 = 0$$

$$f(3) = 3^3 - 4(3) = 27 - 12 = 15$$

Since  $f(2) < f(3)$ , the function is increasing in this interval.

Step 3: Examine each given domain to determine where the function is monotonically decreasing.

(A)  $(-1, 0)$ : Since  $-1 > -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$  and  $0 < \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$ , this domain is entirely within Interval 2, where the function is decreasing.

(B)  $(0, 2)$ : Since  $\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} < 2$ , this domain crosses from Interval 2 (decreasing) to Interval 3 (increasing).

(C)  $(2, \infty)$ : Since  $2 > \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$ , this domain is entirely within Interval 3, where the function is increasing.

(D)  $(-\sqrt{2}, 500)$ : Since  $-\sqrt{2} > -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$  and  $500 > \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$ , this domain crosses multiple intervals.

Therefore, the function  $f(x) = x^3 - 4x$  is monotonically decreasing on the domain  $(-1, 0)$ .

19. **B**: To find the volume of the 3D shape created by rotating region H about the y-axis:

The region  $H$  is bounded by the lines  $y = 2x + 2$ ,  $y = -2x + 2$ , and the  $x$ -axis ( $y = 0$ ), forming a triangle with vertices at  $(-1, 0)$ ,  $(0, 2)$ , and  $(1, 0)$ . When rotated about the  $y$ -axis, this triangular region creates a cone.

For this cone:

- The height is the  $y$ -coordinate of the top vertex:  $h = 2$  units
- The radius of the base is the distance from the  $y$ -axis to the vertices on the  $x$ -axis:  $r = 1$  unit

Substituting values into the formula for the volume of a cone:

$$V = \frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 h = \frac{1}{3}\pi(1)^2(2) = \frac{2\pi}{3}$$

Therefore, the volume of the 3D shape created by rotating region  $H$  about the  $y$ -axis is  $\frac{2\pi}{3}$  cubic units.

20. **D**: To find the smallest value such that  $(x^2 + 4x - 14)^2 - (x - 4)^2 = 0$ :

Step 1: Set up the equation.

$$(x^2 + 4x - 14)^2 - (x - 4)^2 = 0$$



Step 2: This can be solved by factoring or using algebraic transformations.

Let  $u = x^2 + 4x - 14$  and  $v = x - 4$

Then the equation becomes  $u^2 - v^2 = 0$

Which gives us  $u^2 = v^2$

Therefore  $u = \pm v$

Step 3: Solve both cases.

Case 1:  $u = v$

$$x^2 + 4x - 14 = x - 4$$

$$x^2 + 3x - 10 = 0$$

$$x = \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{9+40}}{2} = \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{49}}{2} = \frac{-3 \pm 7}{2}$$

This gives  $x = 2$  or  $x = -5$

Case 2:  $u = -v$

$$x^2 + 4x - 14 = -(x - 4)$$

$$x^2 + 4x - 14 = -x + 4$$

$$x^2 + 5x - 18 = 0$$

$$x = \frac{-5 \pm \sqrt{25+72}}{2} = \frac{-5 \pm \sqrt{97}}{2}$$

This gives  $x = \frac{-5 + \sqrt{97}}{2}$  or  $x = \frac{-5 - \sqrt{97}}{2}$

Step 4: Compare all solutions to find the smallest value.

The solutions are:  $x = -5$ ,  $x = 2$ ,  $x = \frac{-5 + \sqrt{97}}{2}$ , and  $x = \frac{-5 - \sqrt{97}}{2}$

Since  $\sqrt{97} > 0$ , the smallest value is  $x = \frac{-5 - \sqrt{97}}{2}$

Therefore, the smallest value of  $x$  that satisfies the given equation is  $\frac{-5 - \sqrt{97}}{2}$ .

21. **D**: To determine which sets of vectors are linearly independent, we will analyze each option:

(A) Vectors:  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$

Notice that the second vector is twice the first vector:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Therefore, these vectors are linearly dependent.

(B) Vectors:  $\begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 2 \\ 8 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Any set of vectors containing the zero vector is automatically linearly dependent, since we can express  $0 = 0 \cdot v_1 + 1 \cdot 0$ .

(C) Vectors:  $\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 9 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 11 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

With a quick check, we can see that the third vector equals the sum of the first two vectors:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 9 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 11 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Since one vector can be expressed as a linear combination of the others, these vectors are linearly dependent.

(D) Vectors:  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

The matrix formed by these vectors is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

This is an upper triangular matrix with non-zero diagonal elements, which means it has full rank and the vectors are linearly independent.

Therefore, option (D) is the only set of linearly independent vectors.

22. **B**: To solve this problem about Victor the alien on a Ferris wheel:

Since Victor starts at the peak height, we will use cosine to model his height.

Let's model Victor's height as:

$$h(t) = A \cos\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T}\right) + d$$

Where  $A$  is the amplitude and  $d$  is the vertical shift.

Step 1: Find  $A$

At the peak height, we have:

$$A + d = 168 \text{ (equation 1)}$$

At the trough (when Victor is at height 20 feet), the cosine equals  $-1$ :

$$-A + d = 20 \text{ (equation 2)}$$

Solving these equations:

$$A + d = 168$$

$$-A + d = 20$$

Subtract the second one from the first one:

$$2A = 148$$

$$A = 74$$

Step 2: Find the possible values of  $T$ .

At  $t = 118$ , Victor is at the trough, so:

$$\cos\left(\frac{2\pi \cdot 118}{T}\right) = -1$$

This happens when  $\frac{2\pi \cdot 118}{T} = \pi + 2\pi n$  for integer  $n$

$$\frac{118}{T} = \frac{1+2n}{2}$$

$$T = \frac{236}{1+2n}$$

For integer values of  $T$ ,  $1 + 2n$  must divide 236 evenly with  $n$  being an integer.

Since  $236 = 2^2 \cdot 59$ , its divisors are: 1, 2, 4, 59, 118, 236

For  $1 + 2n$  to equal one of these divisors with integer  $n$ :

- 1:  $1 + 2n = 1$ , so  $n = 0$ , giving  $T = 236$
- 59:  $1 + 2n = 59$ , so  $n = 29$ , giving  $T = 4$

The sum of  $A$  and all possible integer values of  $T$  is:

$$74 + 4 + 236 = 314$$

23. **D**: To identify the type of limaçon represented by the polar equation  $r = 7 + 4 \sin \theta + 6 \cos \theta$ :

Step 1: Convert the equation to standard limaçon form  $r = a + b \cos(\theta - \alpha)$  or  $r = a + b \sin(\theta - \alpha)$ .

The terms  $4 \sin \theta + 6 \cos \theta$  can be rewritten as a single sinusoidal term using the identity:

$$a \sin \theta + b \cos \theta = R \sin(\theta + \phi) \text{ or } R \cos(\theta - \phi)$$

where  $R = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$  and  $\phi = \arctan(b/a)$  or  $\arctan(a/b)$

Step 2: Calculate the amplitude  $R$ :

$$R = \sqrt{4^2 + 6^2} = \sqrt{16 + 36} = \sqrt{52}$$

Step 3: Rewrite the equation in standard form:

$$r = 7 + \sqrt{52} \cos(\theta - \alpha) \text{ where } \alpha \text{ is some angle}$$

Step 4: Classify the limaçon based on the relationship between the constant term  $a$  and the coefficient  $b$ :

- If  $a > b$ : convex limaçon
- If  $a = b$ : cardioid
- If  $0 < a < b$ : limaçon with inner loop
- If  $a < 0, |a| < b$ : dimpled limaçon

Since  $7 < \sqrt{52}$  (or  $a < b$ ), this is a limaçon with an inner loop.

Therefore, the answer is Inner loop.

24. **B**: To evaluate  $\cos(3x)$ :

Step 1: Express  $\cos(3x)$  as  $\cos(2x + x)$  and use sum-to-product identities:

$$\cos(3x) = \cos(2x + x) = \cos(2x) \cos(x) - \sin(2x) \sin(x)$$

Step 2: Substitute known identities for  $\cos(2x)$  and  $\sin(2x)$ :

$$\cos(2x) = 2 \cos^2(x) - 1$$

$$\sin(2x) = 2 \sin(x) \cos(x)$$

This gives:

$$\cos(3x) = (2 \cos^2(x) - 1) \cos(x) - 2 \sin(x) \cos(x) \sin(x)$$

$$\cos(3x) = 2 \cos^3(x) - \cos(x) - 2 \sin^2(x) \cos(x)$$

Step 3: Use the Pythagorean identity  $\sin^2(x) = 1 - \cos^2(x)$  to simplify:

$$\cos(3x) = 2 \cos^3(x) - \cos(x) - 2(1 - \cos^2(x)) \cos(x)$$

$$\cos(3x) = 2 \cos^3(x) - \cos(x) - 2 \cos(x) + 2 \cos^3(x)$$

$$\cos(3x) = 4 \cos^3(x) - 3 \cos(x)$$

Step 4: Compare with the given options and identify the equivalent expression:

$$\cos(3x) = 4 \cos^3(x) - 3 \cos(x)$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \cos(3x) = -3 \cos x + 4 \cos^3 x$$

25. **D**: To solve how much less likely a player is to have a second roll under the new rule:

Step 1: Calculate the probability of getting a second roll under the original rule.

Under the old rule, a player gets a second roll if both dice show the same number.

- Total possible outcomes with 2 dice:  $6^2 = 36$
- Number of doubles  $(1,1), (2,2), \dots, (6,6)$ : 6
- Probability of getting a double:  $\frac{6}{36} = \frac{1}{6}$

Step 2: Calculate the probability of getting a second roll under the new rule (4 dice). Under the new rule, a player gets a second roll if at least 3 of the 4 dice show the same number.

- Total possible outcomes with 4 dice:  $6^4 = 1296$
- Probability of exactly 3 matching dice:
  - Ways to choose the value: 6 choices
  - Ways to choose which 3 dice show this value:  $\binom{4}{3} = 4$
  - Ways to choose a different value for remaining die: 5 choices
  - Total favorable outcomes:  $6 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 = 120$
- Probability of all 4 matching dice: 6 outcomes
- Total favorable outcomes:  $120 + 6 = 126$
- Probability of getting a second roll:  $\frac{126}{1296} = \frac{7}{72}$

Step 3: Calculate how much lower the probability that a player gets a second roll under the new rule is.

Subtract the new probability from the old probability:

$$\frac{1}{6} - \frac{7}{72} = \frac{5}{72}$$

Therefore, the probability that a player gets a second roll under the new rule is  $\frac{5}{72}$  lower compared to the original rule.

26. **B**: To find the velocity vector of the third piece when a cup breaks into three equal pieces:

Step 1: Use the principle of conservation of momentum.

Initial momentum = Final momentum

Step 2: Express this mathematically.

Since the cup with mass  $m = 30\text{g}$  breaks into three equal pieces (each with mass  $m/3 = 10\text{g}$ ):

$$m\vec{v} = \frac{m}{3}\vec{v}_1 + \frac{m}{3}\vec{v}_2 + \frac{m}{3}\vec{v}_3$$

Step 3: Simplify to solve for  $\vec{v}_3$ .

$$3\vec{v} = \vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2 + \vec{v}_3$$

$$\vec{v}_3 = 3\vec{v} - \vec{v}_1 - \vec{v}_2$$

Step 4: Substitute the known values.

$$\vec{v} = \langle 4, 2 \rangle$$

$$\vec{v}_1 = \langle -6, 3 \rangle$$

$$\vec{v}_2 = \langle 5, 0 \rangle$$

Step 5: Calculate  $\vec{v}_3$ .

$$\vec{v}_3 = 3\langle 4, 2 \rangle - \langle -6, 3 \rangle - \langle 5, 0 \rangle$$

$$\vec{v}_3 = \langle 12, 6 \rangle + \langle 6, -3 \rangle - \langle 5, 0 \rangle$$

$$\vec{v}_3 = \langle 13, 3 \rangle$$

Therefore, the velocity vector of the third piece is  $\vec{v}_3 = \langle 13, 3 \rangle$ .

27. **C**: To find the horizontal range of a projectile fired at  $40\text{m/s}$  at an angle of  $15^\circ$  above the horizon with  $g = 10\text{m/s}^2$ , use the horizontal range formula.

The horizontal range formula can be derived through the following steps:

Step 1: Resolve the initial velocity into components:

- Horizontal component:  $v_{0x} = v_0 \cos \theta$
- Vertical component:  $v_{0y} = v_0 \sin \theta$

Step 2: Find the time of flight (when the projectile returns to the same height):

$$\text{For vertical motion: } y = v_{0y}t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2$$

When  $y = 0$  (returning to launch height):

$$0 = v_0 \sin \theta \cdot t - \frac{1}{2}gt^2$$

$$\frac{1}{2}gt^2 = v_0 \sin \theta \cdot t$$

Solving for time (ignoring  $t = 0$  which is the starting point):

$$t = \frac{2v_0 \sin \theta}{g}$$

Step 3: Calculate the horizontal distance using constant horizontal velocity:

$$R = v_{0x} \cdot t = v_0 \cos \theta \cdot \frac{2v_0 \sin \theta}{g}$$

$$R = \frac{2v_0^2 \cos \theta \sin \theta}{g}$$

Using the trigonometric identity  $2 \sin \theta \cos \theta = \sin(2\theta)$ :

$$R = \frac{v_0^2 \sin(2\theta)}{g}$$

This is the standard horizontal range formula for projectile motion. Now we will use it to solve the problem.

Given:

- Initial velocity:  $v_0 = 40 \text{ m/s}$

- Launch angle:  $\theta = 15$
- Acceleration due to gravity:  $g = 10 \text{ m/s}^2$

Calculating the horizontal range:

$$R = \frac{v_0^2 \sin(2\theta)}{g}$$

$$R = \frac{(40)^2 \sin(2 \cdot 15)}{10}$$

$$R = \frac{1600 \cdot \sin(30)}{10}$$

$$R = \frac{1600 \cdot 0.5}{10}$$

$$R = \frac{800}{10}$$

$$R = 80$$

Therefore, the horizontal range of the projectile is 80 meters.

28. **A**: To find the total amount of cake Jaden brings in:

Step 1: Identify the series pattern.

- First: 1 complete cake
- Second: 2 half cakes = 1 cake
- Third: 3 quarter cakes =  $\frac{3}{4}$  cake
- Fourth: 4 eighth cakes =  $\frac{1}{2}$  cake
- And so on...

Step 2: Express the total as a sum.

The pattern forms an arithmetico-geometric series where the general term is  $(n+1) \cdot \frac{1}{2^n}$

$$\text{Total} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1) \cdot \frac{1}{2^n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2^n} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n}$$

Step 3: Evaluate  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n}$ .

This is a standard geometric series with first term  $a = 1$  and ratio  $r = \frac{1}{2}$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n} = \frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{2}} = 2$$

Step 4: Evaluate  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2^n}$

This is an arithmetico-geometric series. To find its sum algebraically:

Let  $S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2^n}$  (starting from  $n = 1$  for simplicity)

Multiply both sides by  $\frac{1}{2}$ :  $\frac{S}{2} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2^{n+1}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2 \cdot 2^n}$  Subtract the second equation from the first:

$$S - \frac{S}{2} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2^n} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2^{n+1}}$$

$$\frac{S}{2} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2^n} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2^{n+1}}$$

$$\frac{S}{2} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2^n} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2^n}$$

$$\frac{S}{2} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n}$$

$$\frac{S}{2} = \frac{1/2}{1-1/2} = \frac{1/2}{1/2} = 1$$

$$S = 2$$

This calculation for  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2^n}$  can be simplified by using the formula  $\frac{r}{(1-r)^2}$  where for this case  $r = \frac{1}{2}$ . Sum =  $\frac{\frac{1}{2}}{(1-\frac{1}{2})^2} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{4}} = 2$

Step 5: Calculate the total.

$$\text{Total} = 2 + 2 = 4$$

Therefore, the total amount of cake Jaden brings in is 4 complete cakes.

29. **D**: To rotate the conic  $7x^2 + 6\sqrt{3}xy + 13y^2 = 16$  to eliminate the  $xy$  term:

Step 1: Find the angle of rotation. For a conic section  $Ax^2 + Bxy + Cy^2 = D$ , the rotation angle  $\theta$  satisfies:

$$\tan(2\theta) = \frac{B}{A-C}$$

Substituting our coefficients:

$$\tan(2\theta) = \frac{6\sqrt{3}}{7-13} = \frac{6\sqrt{3}}{-6} = -\sqrt{3}$$

This gives  $2\theta = 120$  or  $\theta = 60$ .

Step 2: Calculate the new coefficients using the rotation formulas:

$$A' = A \cos^2 \theta + B \cos \theta \sin \theta + C \sin^2 \theta$$

$$C' = A \sin^2 \theta - B \cos \theta \sin \theta + C \cos^2 \theta$$

With  $\cos(60) = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\sin(60) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$ :

$$A' = 7\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) + 6\sqrt{3}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) + 13\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)$$

$$A' = \frac{7}{4} + \frac{6 \cdot 3}{4} + \frac{39}{4} = \frac{64}{4} = 16$$

$$C' = 7\left(\frac{3}{4}\right) - 6\sqrt{3}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right) + 13\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)$$

$$C' = \frac{21}{4} - \frac{18}{4} + \frac{13}{4} = \frac{16}{4} = 4$$

Step 3: Write the rotated equation:

$$16x^2 + 4y^2 = 16$$

Dividing by 16:

$$x^2 + \frac{y^2}{4} = 1$$

Therefore, the answer is  $x^2 + \frac{y^2}{4} = 1$ .

30. **C**: To evaluate  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^3 - 8}{x^2 - 4}$ :

Step 1: Note that this is an indeterminate form  $\frac{0}{0}$  when  $x = 2$ , as:

$$x^3 - 8 = 2^3 - 8 = 0 \text{ and } x^2 - 4 = 2^2 - 4 = 0$$

Step 2: Factor both numerator and denominator.

$$\text{For the numerator: } x^3 - 8 = x^3 - 2^3 = (x - 2)(x^2 + 2x + 4)$$

$$\text{For the denominator: } x^2 - 4 = x^2 - 2^2 = (x - 2)(x + 2)$$

Step 3: Simplify the expression by canceling the common factor  $(x - 2)$ :

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^3 - 8}{x^2 - 4} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{(x-2)(x^2+2x+4)}{(x-2)(x+2)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^2+2x+4}{x+2}$$

Step 4: Evaluate the limit by direct substitution:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^2+2x+4}{x+2} = \frac{2^2+2(2)+4}{2+2} = \frac{4+4+4}{4} = \frac{12}{4} = 3$$

Therefore,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{x^3 - 8}{x^2 - 4} = 3$