

2021 Grade Boundaries	Max	A	B	C	D	E
January	75	51	40	30	20	10
October	75	48	39	30	21	12
June exam was not held						

Examiners' Report

Principal Examiner Feedback

January

This paper did not prove too challenging and almost all students were able to make a reasonable attempt at most questions although it was disappointing to see a significant number of candidates who made no attempt at some questions. Questions 3, 4, 9 and 10 caused the most difficulty, perhaps as these required a problem-solving approach, rather than using standard, learned methods. As in previous papers marks were lost by students who used calculators on questions where this was not permitted, but also it was noticeable that calculators were not always used when they were allowed. On the whole candidates showed sufficient working, but some did not understand the need for a complete method to be clearly shown in questions 7 and 9, where the required answer or expression was given in the question

This paper proved to be a good test of candidates' ability on the WMA11 content and it was pleasing to see many candidates demonstrating what they had learned, and an increased confidence on the topic of radians. Overall, marks were available to candidates of all abilities and the parts of questions that proved to be the most challenging were 4(b), 7(a) and 9. A significant number of candidates did not appear to follow the guidance within certain questions which indicate that the solutions relying (entirely) on calculator technology are not acceptable, or specific questions requiring all showing all stages of your working. This was evident on question 7 and on part 8(c). Trigonometric graphs and transformations are still found to be particularly challenging by candidates, however, as seen on question 3.

October