

# 2015 MANITOBA MATHEMATICAL CONTEST

For students in grade 12  
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM  
Tuesday, February 24, 2015



Manitoba Association of  
Mathematics Teachers

Sponsored by:

The Winnipeg Actuaries' Club

The Manitoba Association of Mathematics Teachers

The Canadian Mathematical Society

The University of Manitoba



UNIVERSITY  
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Questions are found on both sides of this sheet. Answer as many as possible, but you are not expected to answer them all. **CALCULATORS ARE NOT PERMITTED.** Numerical answers by themselves, without explanation, will not receive full credit.

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1. (a) Solve for  $x$ :

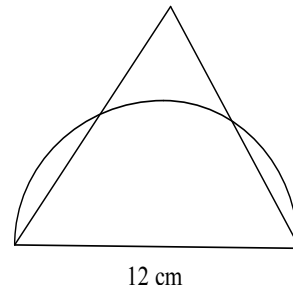
$$\frac{5}{x} - \frac{7 + 2x}{3x} = 3$$

- (b) Find the ratio of  $x$  to  $y$ , given that

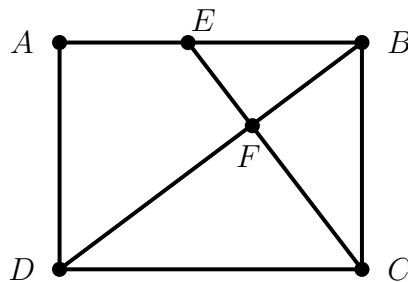
$$\frac{x - y}{x + y} = \frac{2}{5}$$

2. (a) Let “ $*$ ” denote an operation defined as follows:  $a * b = 2ab - b^3$ .  
Find the value of  $(4 * 3) * 2$ .
- (b) The original price of an item is reduced by 20%. A month later its reduced price is doubled. At the end of the year it is sold in a discount sale. What exact percentage discount was applied if the sale price was equal to the original price?
3. In a **Fibonacci-like sequence** each term is the sum of the two terms immediately preceding it. For example the Fibonacci sequence  $1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, \dots$  and the Lucas sequence  $1, 3, 4, 7, 11, 18, \dots$  are both Fibonacci-like sequences.
- (a) The first term of a Fibonacci-like sequence is 4 and the fifth term is 2. Find the second, third and fourth terms.
- (b) If  $x, y, 2x - 1, x + 4$  is a Fibonacci-like sequence, find the values of  $x$  and  $y$ .

4. (a) Find, with justification, all pairs of real numbers  $(a, b)$  such that  $a^2 + 2ab + b^2 = 9$  and  $a - b = 5$ .
- (b) Find, with justification, all pairs of real numbers  $(a, b)$  such that  $a^2 - ab + b^2 = 0$ .
5. (a) Find all possible values of  $a$  such that the line with equation  $x + y = a$  is tangent to the circle with equation  $x^2 + y^2 = 25$ .
- (b) One side of an equilateral triangle is the 12 cm diameter of a semi-circle, as shown. Find the area of the portion of the triangle that is outside the semi-circle.



6. The sides of a right triangle are  $x + 2$ ,  $x + 6$  and  $2x$ . Find all possible values of  $x$ .
7.  $ABCD$  is a rectangle.  $E$  is on  $AB$ .  $CE$  intersects diagonal  $DB$  at  $F$ .  $\triangle ADE$  has area 50.  $\triangle EFB$  has area 40. Find the area of rectangle  $ABCD$ .



8. The lines  $y = -2x + 12$ ,  $x = 2$  and  $y = mx$  intersect to form a triangle with area 2. Find all possible values for  $m$ .
9. Let  $A, B, C$  be vertices of an equilateral triangle, with  $D$  an interior point such that the lengths of  $AD, BD, CD$  are 3, 4 and 5, respectively. What is the area of the triangle?
10. The expression  $n!$  denotes the product  $1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdots n$  and is read as “ $n$  factorial”. For example  $5! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 = 120$ .
- (a) The product  $(2!)(3!)(4!)(5!)(6!)(7!)(8!)(9!)(10!)(11!)(12!)$  can be written in the form  $M^2N!$  where  $M, N$  are positive integers. Find a suitable value of  $N$  and justify your answer.
- (b) Prove that, for every  $n \geq 1$ ,  $(2!)(3!)(4!) \cdots ((4n)!)$  can be written as the product of a square and a factorial.