Examination report – December 2010 series

Paper no 2730 – 020 Advanced Mathematics 1

Section 1 – Areas of good performance (question no/syllabus topic or reference)
Syllabus sections: 1.10, 1.11, 1.12, 1.13, 1.15 - Straight line graph was reasonably well understood by many candidates. Syllabus sections: 1.6, 1.7, 1.28, 1.33 - Many candidates obtained good marks for inverse proportion. Product and division of complex numbers was reasonably well attempted by most candidates. Syllabus sections: 1.55, 1.56, 1.57, 1.58 - Some candidates obtained some marks for turning point. Definite integrals was reasonably attempted by many candidates.
Section 2 – Areas for development (question no/syllabus topic or reference)
Syllabus sections: 1.2, 1.4, 1.19 - Solving quadratic equations proved difficult for many candidates. Many candidates obtained good marks for the binomial expansion. Syllabus sections: 1.30, 1.31, 1.35, 1.36 - Solving and evaluating in Cartesian and polar forms was not very well attempted by many candidates. Syllabus sections: 1.22, 1.23, 1.25 - Straight line form using logarithms was very poorly understood by most candidates. Syllabus section: 1.43, 1.49, 1.50 - Most candidates obtained some marks on sinusoidal function calculations, however, many marks were poor. Syllabus section: 1.52 - Very little idea of compound angle form was evident. Syllabus sections: 1.62, 1.63, 1.64, 1.68, 1.70 - Most candidates did not understand probability calculations. Permutations and combinations were well understood by many candidates. Syllabus sections: 1.49, 1.50 - Binomial probability and the probability histogram was poorly attempted by the majority of candidates.