

1. (a) Simplify the difference of binomial coefficients

$$\binom{n}{3} - \binom{2n}{2}, \text{ where } n \geq 3. \quad (4)$$

- (b) Hence, solve the inequality

$$\binom{n}{3} - \binom{2n}{2} > 32n, \text{ where } n \geq 3. \quad (2)$$

**(Total 6 marks)**

2. Expand and simplify  $\left(x^2 - \frac{2}{x}\right)^4$ .

**(Total 4 marks)**

3. When  $\left(1 + \frac{x}{2}\right)^n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , is expanded in ascending powers of  $x$ , the coefficient of  $x^3$  is 70.

- (a) Find the value of  $n$ . (5)

- (b) Hence, find the coefficient of  $x^2$ . (1)
- (Total 6 marks)**

4. Determine the first three terms in the expansion of  $(1 - 2x)^5 (1 + x)^7$  in ascending powers of  $x$ . (Total 5 marks)

5. (a) Write down the quadratic expression  $2x^2 + x - 3$  as the product of two linear factors. (1)

- (b) Hence, or otherwise, find the coefficient of  $x$  in the expansion of  $(2x^2 + x - 3)^8$ . (4)
- (Total 5 marks)**