

**NC High School Mathematics Contest Finals 2018: Level I**

- Find the number of integers that are in the region defined by the inequality  $5 < |n| \leq 73$ .  
(A) 136      (B) 134      (C) 68      (D) 67      (E) None of these
- Let  $n, n + 1$  be positive integers such that their quotient is 1.02. Compute the product of  $n$  and  $n + 1$ .  
(A) 101      (B) 202      (C) 2550      (D) 5250      (E) None of these
- Consider the function  $f(x) = \frac{x^6 + 3x^5 - 4x^4 - 12x^3}{x^4 - 2x^3}$  with domain  $D = \{x \mid x \neq 0, x \neq 2\}$ . Evaluate  $f(9997)$ .  
(A) 9997000      (B) 99997000      (C) 9999900      (D) 99990000      (E) None of these
- How many real solutions are there to the equation  $|200x + |1000x - 800|| = 400$ ?  
(A) 0      (B) 1      (C) 2      (D) 4      (E) None of these
- Suppose a point is selected at random inside a circle. Find the probability that the point is closer to the center of the circle than the edge.  
(A)  $\frac{1}{4}$       (B)  $\frac{1}{2}$       (C)  $\frac{3}{4}$       (D)  $\frac{5}{8}$       (E)  $\frac{7}{8}$
- In an isosceles triangle  $ABC$ ,  $m\angle C = 30^\circ$  and  $AC = BC$ . Suppose  $AC = a$ . Find  $BD$  if  $D$  is on  $\overline{BC}$  such that  $\overline{AD}$  is the altitude of triangle  $ABC$ .  
(A)  $\frac{(3-\sqrt{5})a}{2}$       (B)  $\frac{(\sqrt{5}-1)a}{2}$       (C)  $\frac{(\sqrt{3}-1)a}{2}$       (D)  $\frac{(2-\sqrt{3})a}{2}$       (E)  $\frac{1}{3}a$

7. Consider the sequence  $\{a_n\}$  that is defined recursively by

$a_1 = 10$ ,  $a_{n+1} = \sqrt{a_n}$  for  $n \geq 1$ . If the sequence is continued indefinitely, which of the following numbers gives the limit of  $\{a_n\}$ ?

(A)  $2\sqrt{5}$  (B)  $\sqrt{21}$  (C) 3 (D) 5 (E) 1

8. Three athletes run a 1500 meter- race. When the first runner finishes, the second runner and third runner are at 100 and 170 meters from the finish line, respectively. If each runner maintains a constant speed, how far is the third runner from the finish line when the second runner finishes?

(A) 70 m (B) 72.5 m (C) 74.5 m (D) 75 m (E) 77 m

9. Find the area of the regions enclosed by the equations:

$|x| - |y| = 1$  and  $|x| = 3$ .

(A)  $12 \text{ unit}^2$  (B)  $8 \text{ unit}^2$  (C)  $6 \text{ unit}^2$  (D)  $5 \text{ unit}^2$  (E)  $3 \text{ unit}^2$

10. A virulent infectious disease spreads as given by the equation  $N(t) = N_0(1 - 10^{-kt})$  where:  
t is time in hours,

$N(t)$  is number of people infected at time t

$N_0$  is the total population of the community at time  $t = 0$

k is the infection rate constant of the disease ( $k = 0.001$ ).

Calculate how long will it take for 90% of the population to be infected.

(A) 90 hours (B) 100 hours (C) 1000 hours (D) 990 hours (E) None of these

11. Let  $m$  be the solution of the equation

$$\frac{4x + 9}{5} - \frac{2x + 3}{3} = \frac{x - 5}{2}$$

Compute the value of  $m^2 + m$ .

(A) 61 (B) 72 (C) 80 (D) 85 (E) 90

12. Simplify the expression:

$$\left(\frac{1}{1 + \sqrt[3]{2} + \sqrt[3]{4}}\right)^3$$

- (A)  $1 + 3\sqrt[3]{2} - 3\sqrt[3]{4}$  (B)  $1 - \sqrt[3]{2} - \sqrt[3]{4}$  (C)  $1 - 3\sqrt[3]{2} + 3\sqrt[3]{4}$  (D)  $\sqrt[3]{2} - 1$   
(E) None of these

13. Let  $p$  be the solution of the equation  $5^{2x-1} \cdot 10^{6x} = 8^{2x}$ . Find the value of  $(\sqrt[3]{p} + p)^2$ .

- (A) 2 (B)  $\frac{2}{3}$  (C)  $\frac{1}{64}$  (D)  $\frac{25}{64}$  (E) None of these

14. Consider the sequence  $\{a_n\}$  such that  $a_0 = 4$ ,  $a_1 = 2$ ,  $a_n = a_{n-1} - a_{n-2}$ . Compute the sum:  
 $a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + \cdots + a_{101}$ .

- (A) 4 (B) 2 (C) -2 (D) -4 (E) 0

15. Consider the real function  $f(x) = ax^3 - bx - 5$  such that  $f(1) = 0$ . Find  $f(-1)$ .

- (A) 1 (B) -1 (C) -5 (D) -10 (E) -20

16. Suppose the quadratic equation  $x^2 + kx + 2k = 0$  has at least one real solution. Find the criteria satisfied by  $k$ .

- (A)  $k \leq -1$  (B)  $k \geq 9$  (C)  $k \leq -1$  or  $k \geq 9$  (D)  $k \leq 0$  or  $k \geq 9$  (E)  $k \leq 0$  or  $k \geq 8$

17. Suppose the function  $f(x) = x^2 + 2bx + b$  has two  $x$ -intercepts such that one of the  $x$ -intercepts has a value of  $-3$ . Compute the value of the other  $x$ -intercept.

- (A)  $\frac{1}{2}$  (B) -2 (C)  $-\frac{5}{3}$  (D)  $-\frac{3}{5}$  (E)  $\frac{6}{5}$

18. A triangle has sides of lengths 4, 5, and 6. Find the length of the altitude to the side of length 6.

- (A)  $\frac{5\sqrt{7}}{3}$  (B)  $\frac{15}{2}$  (C)  $\frac{5\sqrt{7}}{4}$  (D)  $\frac{24}{5}$  (E)  $\frac{5\sqrt{7}}{6}$

19. Consider the triangle  $ABC$  with vertices with coordinates:  $A = (4, -3)$ ,  $B = (4, 1)$ , and  $C = (2, 1)$ . Calculate the area of the triangle  $ABC$ .

- (A)  $\frac{1}{8}$       (B)  $\frac{1}{4}$       (C)  $\frac{1}{2}$       (D) 4      (E) None of these

20. Consider the function  $f(x) = x^2$ . Suppose the following sequence of transformations are performed on  $f(x)$  to obtain  $g(x)$ .

- Translation of 2 units to the left.
  - Vertical shift of 3 units up.
  - Reflection in the  $y$  axis.
  - Reflection in the  $x$  axis.
- Evaluate  $g(2)$ .

- (A)  $-5$       (B)  $-3$       (C) 3      (D) 5      (E) 13

21. Let  $x$  and  $y$  be real variables such that  $x \geq 0$  and  $y \geq 0$ . Suppose

$f(x, y) = (x^2 + y^2 - 2)^2 + 4(xy + 2)(x^2 + xy + y^2)$ . Compute  $\sqrt{f(x, y)}$ .

- (A)  $x^2 + y^2$       (B)  $(x^2 + y^2 - 2)^{1/2} + 2xy$       (C)  $2(xy + 2)^2$       (D)  $(x + y)^2 + 2$       (E)  $4xy$

22. The altitude perpendicular to the hypotenuse of a right triangle is 12 cm. Express the length of the hypotenuse  $h$  as a function of the perimeter  $P$ .

- (A)  $h = \frac{P^2}{2P+24}$       (B)  $h = \frac{P}{2P+34}$       (C)  $h = \frac{P^2+24}{2P}$       (D)  $h = \frac{2P+24}{P^2}$       (E)  $h = \frac{P}{2P^2+24}$

23. Twenty-four different 4-digit numbers can be arranged by re-arranging the digits of the number 1234. Find the sum of these twenty-four numbers.

- (A) 57661      (B) 67542      (C) 76563      (D) 66664      (E) 66660



24. Consider the set  $S = \{a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n\}$ . Let the arithmetic mean of  $S$  be denoted by  $E(S)$  and the variance of  $S$  be given by  $V(S)$  such that:

$$E(S) = \frac{1}{n} \sum a_i$$

$$V(S) = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum (a_i - E(S))^2$$

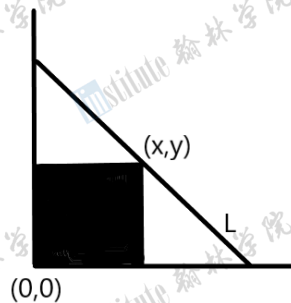
If each element of  $S$  is multiplied by  $k$  and then increased by  $l$ , find the value of the new variance of the set  $S$ .

- (A)  $E(S) + kl$  (B)  $k^2V(S)$  (C)  $k^2V(S) + l$  (D)  $l^2V(S) + k$  (E)  $(E(S))^2 - k^2$
25. Consider the triangle  $PQR$ . Let the points  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  be the midpoints of the sides  $PQ$ ,  $QR$ , and  $PR$ , respectively. Given that the midpoint coordinates are such that  $A = (-4, 1)$ ,  $B = (-2, 2)$ , and  $C = (-5, 3)$ , compute the area of triangle  $PQR$ .

- (A)  $40 \text{ unit}^2$  (B)  $20 \text{ unit}^2$  (C)  $10 \text{ unit}^2$  (D)  $4 \text{ unit}^2$  (E) None of these
26. In the mythical city of Jamais, the 6-faced die used in *Casino Mathematicale* has the face numbers  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$  handcrafted such that the probability of a number  $x$  appearing during a random toss is proportional to the number  $x$ . Compute the probability that when a single die is tossed randomly, an odd prime number is observed.

- (A)  $\frac{2}{9}$  (B)  $\frac{1}{7}$  (C)  $\frac{8}{21}$  (D)  $\frac{3}{4}$  (E) None of these

27. Consider the shaded rectangle in the figure shown.



If the equation of  $L$  is  $2x + y = 100$ , find the value of the maximum possible area of the shaded rectangle.

- (A)  $1150 \text{ unit}^2$  (B)  $1250 \text{ unit}^2$  (C)  $1300 \text{ unit}^2$  (D)  $1350 \text{ unit}^2$  (E) None of these

28. Consider the binary operations  $\odot$  and  $\otimes$  defined over the real numbers by the expressions  $a \odot b = 2^{a+b}$  and  $a \otimes b = 2^{ab}$ . Suppose  $2 \otimes (2 \odot 2) = 2x \odot 4$ . Solve for  $x$ .

- (A) 4                      (B) 6                      (C) 12                      (D) 14                      (E) 32

29. Consider the ordered triple  $\{a_1, a_2, a_3\}$  such that  $\frac{1}{1+\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{3}} = a_1 + a_2\sqrt{2} + a_3\sqrt{6}$ . Find the sum of  $a_1, a_2$ , and  $a_3$ .

- (A) 0                      (B)  $\frac{1}{6}$                       (C)  $\frac{1}{3}$                       (D)  $\frac{3}{8}$                       (E)  $\frac{1}{2}$

30. Suppose  $a, b, c$ , and  $d$  are non-zero real numbers. If  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  has two real solutions of opposite signs and  $ax^2 + bx + c = d$  has two real solutions of the same sign, which of the following statements is true?

- (A)  $ac < 0, |c| < |d|$                       (B)  $ac < 0, |c| > |d|$                       (C)  $ac > 0, |c| < |d|$   
(D)  $ac > 0, |c| > |d|$                       (E)  $ac > 0, c > d$

31. Let  $x$  be a real number. Consider the equation  $x^{1/2} - 9x^{1/3} + 20x^{1/6} = 0, x \geq 0$ . Compute the sum of the values of  $x^{1/6}$ .

- (A) 9                      (B) 10                      (C) 11                      (D) 15                      (E) 20

32. Anthony's mother is 20 years older than Anthony, but she is 3 years younger than Anthony's father. Anthony's father is 7 years younger than 3 times Anthony's age. Find the sum of their ages.

- (A) 66 years                      (B) 77 years                      (C) 88 years                      (D) 102 years                      (E) None of these

33. Let  $f(x)$  be a real function such that  $f(x) = x^{17} - x$  where  $x$  is a real number. Find the number of real roots of  $f(x)$ .

- (A) 8                      (B) 4                      (C) 3                      (D) 2                      (E) 1

34. A rectangular storage container with an open top has a volume of  $10 \text{ m}^3$ . The length of its base is twice its width. Material for the base costs \$10 per square meter; material for the sides costs \$6 per square meter. Express the cost  $C$  of material as a function of the width of the base  $w$ .

- (A)  $C(w) = 10w^2 + \frac{180}{w}, w > 0$  (B)  $C(w) = 20w^2 + \frac{360}{w}, w > 0$   
(C)  $C(w) = 20w^2 + \frac{180}{w}, w > 0$  (D)  $C(w) = 10w^2 + \frac{360}{w}, w > 0$  (E) None of these

35. Compute the maximum value of  $P(x, y) = 4x + 5y$  subject to the constraints  $x \geq 0$ ,  $y \geq 0$ ,  $2x + 2y \leq 10$ , and  $x + 2y \leq 6$ .

- (A) 19 (B) 20 (C) 21 (D) 22 (E) None of these

36. Consider the inequality  $|x - 2| \leq 7$ . Let  $(a_1, a_2)$  be an ordered pair such that  $a_1 \leq \frac{1}{x-10} \leq a_2$ . Compute  $(a_1, a_2)$ .

- (A)  $(-15, -1)$  (B)  $(-1, -15)$  (C)  $(-1, -\frac{1}{15})$  (D)  $(-\frac{1}{15}, -1)$  (E)  $(1, \frac{1}{15})$

37. Determine the last digit of  $2018^{2018}$ .

- (A) 2 (B) 4 (C) 6 (D) 8 (E) None of these

38. Let  $a = \frac{x}{2018} - 2018$ ,  $b = \frac{x}{2018} - 2016$ , and  $c = \frac{x}{2018} - 2020$  where  $x \neq 0$ . Find the value of  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca$ .

- (A) 4 (B) 8 (C) 12 (D) 16 (E) 24

39. The probability of rolling two dice and observing a double-1 (making a sum of two, or “snake-eyes”), is 1 in 36. Calculate the probability of getting a double-1 on *at least one of the two rolls* of a pair of unbiased dice.

- (A)  $\frac{1}{6}$  (B)  $\frac{1}{3}$  (C)  $\frac{71}{1296}$  (D)  $\frac{1}{1296}$  (E)  $\frac{1}{18}$

40. Let  $f(x) = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4$ . Find the remainder when  $f(x)$  is divided by  $x - \frac{1}{10}$ .

- (A) 10.9999 (B) 9.9999 (C) 3.3333 (D) 2.2222 (E) 1.1111