

Mathematics: applications and interpretation
Standard level
Paper 1

14 May 2026

Zone A afternoon | Zone B afternoon | Zone C afternoon

Session number

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1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions to students

- Write your session number in the boxes above.
- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- A graphic display calculator is required for this paper.
- Answer all questions.
- Answers must be written within the answer boxes provided.
- Unless otherwise stated in the question, all numerical answers should be given exactly or correct to three significant figures.
- A clean copy of the **mathematics: applications and interpretation SL formula booklet** is required for this paper.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[80 marks]**.

507

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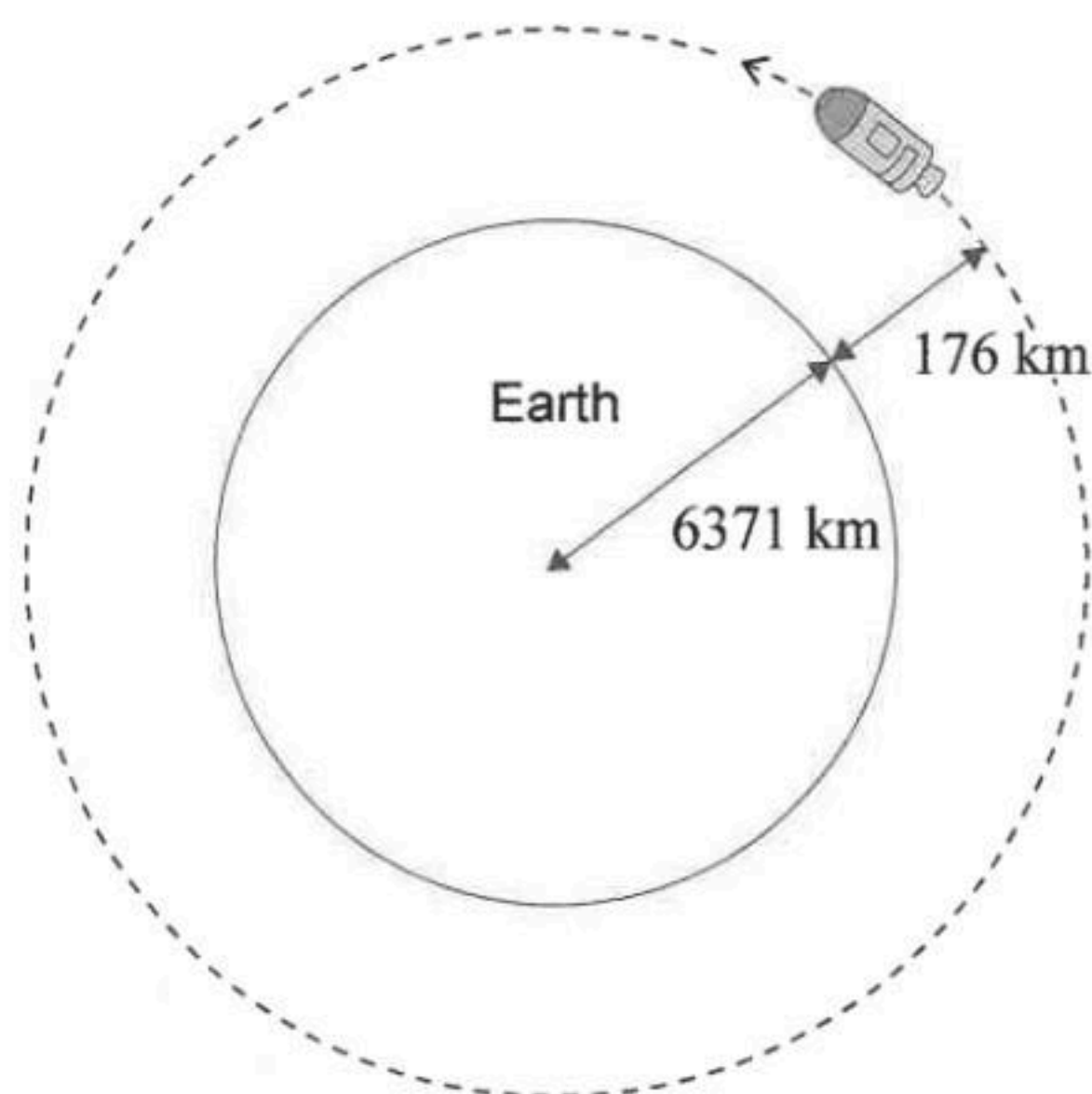


Answers must be written within the answer boxes provided. Full marks are not necessarily awarded for a correct answer with no working. Answers must be supported by working and/or explanations. Solutions found from a graphic display calculator should be supported by suitable working. For example, if graphs are used to find a solution, you should sketch these as part of your answer. Where an answer is incorrect, some marks may be given for a correct method, provided this is shown by written working. You are therefore advised to show all working.

1. [Maximum mark: 5]

In 1962, astronaut Walter Schirra orbited the Earth six times in his spacecraft at a height of 176 km above the Earth's surface. The radius of the Earth is 6371 km. This is shown in the following diagram.

diagram not to scale



Jorge wants to find the total distance travelled by the spacecraft for its six orbits.

He assumes the spacecraft follows a circular path above the Earth's surface.

(a) Using Jorge's assumption, show that the total distance travelled is 2.47×10^5 km, correct to three significant figures. [3]

The actual total distance travelled by the spacecraft was 231 718 km.

(b) Find the percentage error in Jorge's calculation. [2]

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507

A026

507

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Answers written on this page
will not be marked.

A026



2. [Maximum mark: 5]

The fifth term of a geometric sequence is 48 and the sixth term is 96.

(a) For this sequence, find

(i) the common ratio.

(ii) the first term.

[3]

(b) Find the sum of the first 15 terms of the sequence.

[2]

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507

A026



3. [Maximum mark: 8]

A school librarian conducts a survey to determine the favourite genre of book within different age groups. A group of 230 students was asked to state their age and their favourite from three genres of books: mystery, science fiction and romance. The data is summarized in the following table.

	Mystery	Science fiction	Romance
< 13 years old	26	52	22
13 to 16 years old	22	31	19
> 16 years old	28	17	13

A χ^2 test at the 5% significance level is carried out to determine if a student's favourite genre of book is independent of their age.

- (a) State the
- (i) null hypothesis.
 - (ii) alternative hypothesis. [2]
- (b) Find the p -value for this test. [2]
- (c) State, in context, the conclusion for this test. Justify your answer. [2]

The students who participated in the survey were the first 230 students who visited the library that week.

- (d) (i) Write down the sampling method that the librarian used.
- (ii) State one reason why the sampling method used may lead to an invalid conclusion. [2]

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(Question 3 continued)

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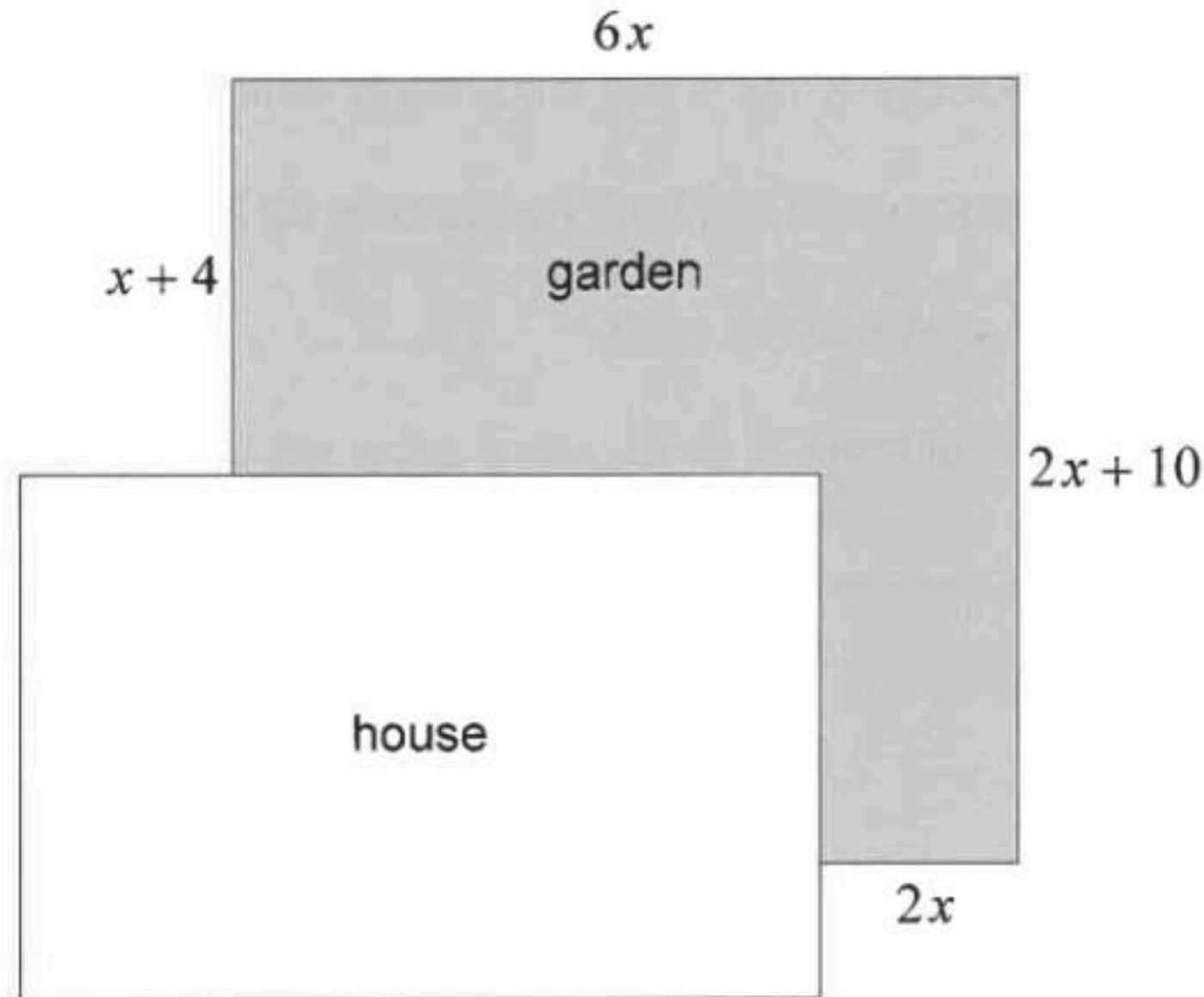
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5. [Maximum mark: 7]

Jeff is designing a garden around a corner of his house. The lengths, in metres, of each side of the garden are given in terms of x , as shown in the following diagram.

diagram not to scale



507

- (a) Show that the garden's area, $A \text{ m}^2$, is given by $A = 8x^2 + 36x$. [3]

The garden's area is 72 m^2 .

- (b) Find the value of x . [2]

Jeff decides to construct a fence around the garden. The fence is not required around the parts of the garden that touch the side of the house.

- (c) Find the length of fence that Jeff needs. [2]

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6. [Maximum mark: 7]

An airline conducted a survey to see how many items of luggage are lost during transit. A sample of 80 items of luggage were selected at random and tracked, and 5 of those were lost.

Items of luggage that weigh over 18 kg are considered "heavy". In the sample, 24 items of luggage were heavy, and 2 of those were lost.

(a) Using this information, complete the following table. [2]

	Lost	Not lost	Totals
Heavy			
Not heavy			
Totals	5		80

(b) An item of luggage is selected at random from the sample. Find the probability that this item is

- (i) not heavy.
- (ii) lost, given that it is heavy. [2]

It can be assumed that the proportions of lost luggage in the survey are representative of the proportions on any given flight with this airline.

The airline's research also shows that the weight of an item of luggage can be modelled by a normal distribution with a mean of 16 kg and a standard deviation of 3 kg.

An item of luggage is selected at random from all those in transit with this airline.

(c) Find the probability that it will be heavy and lost. [3]

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507

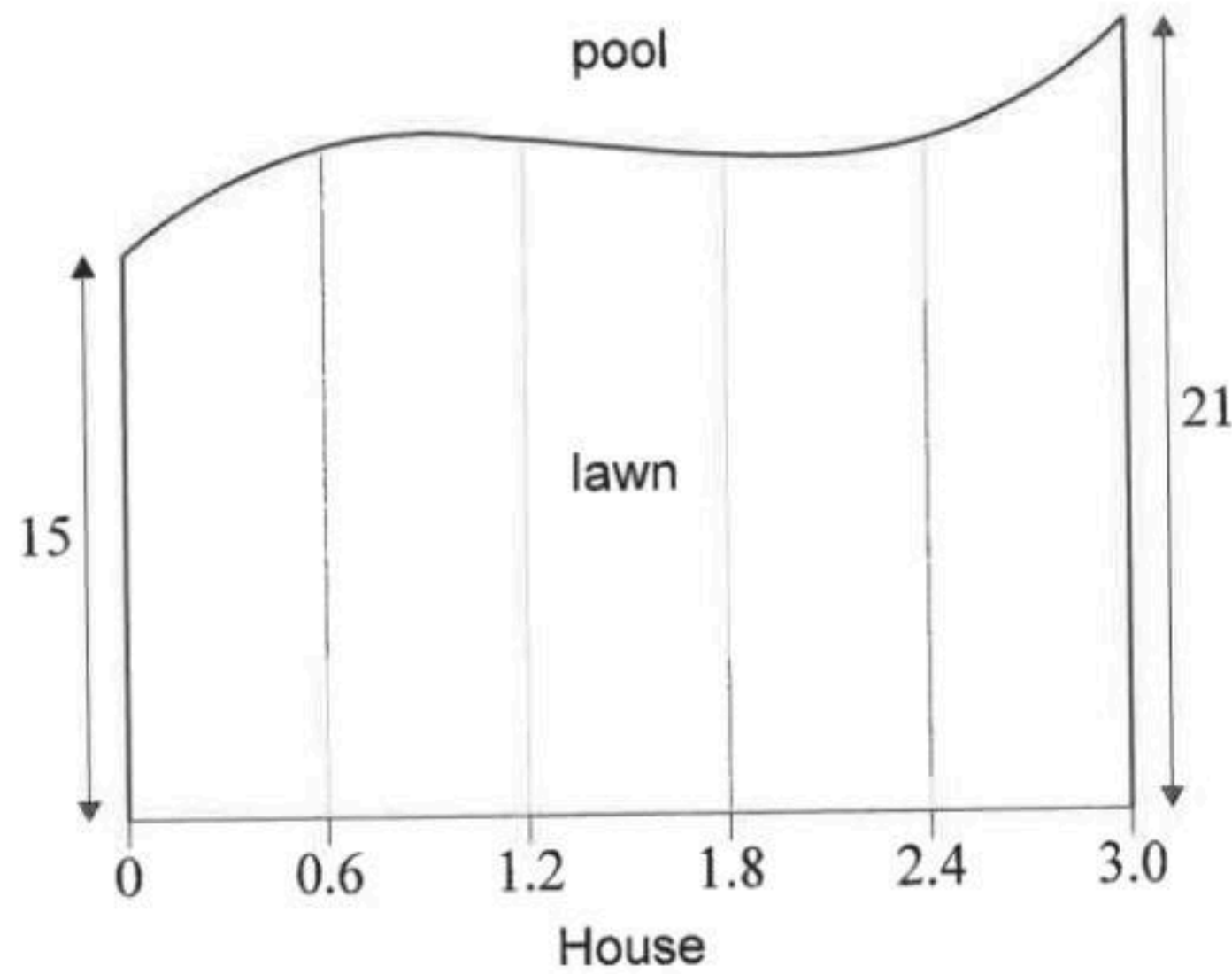
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7. [Maximum mark: 9]

Bogdan is planning to replace the grass on his lawn, between his house and the edge of his pool. This is shown in the following diagram.

diagram not to scale



The following table gives the distances, to the nearest metre, between the house and the pool. These are taken at intervals of 0.6 metres from the left corner of Bogdan's house.

Distance from left corner of house (x metres)	0	0.6	1.2	1.8	2.4	3.0
Distance between house and pool (y metres)	15	18	18	17	18	21

- (a) Calculate an estimate for the area of the lawn using the trapezoidal rule. [2]

The curve of the edge of the pool for the interval $0 \leq x \leq 3.0$ is given by the equation

$$y = 1.37x^3 - 6.07x^2 + 7.87x + 15.$$

- (b) Show that the exact area of the lawn is greater than the estimated area calculated in part (a). [3]

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507

A026

8. [Maximum mark: 6]

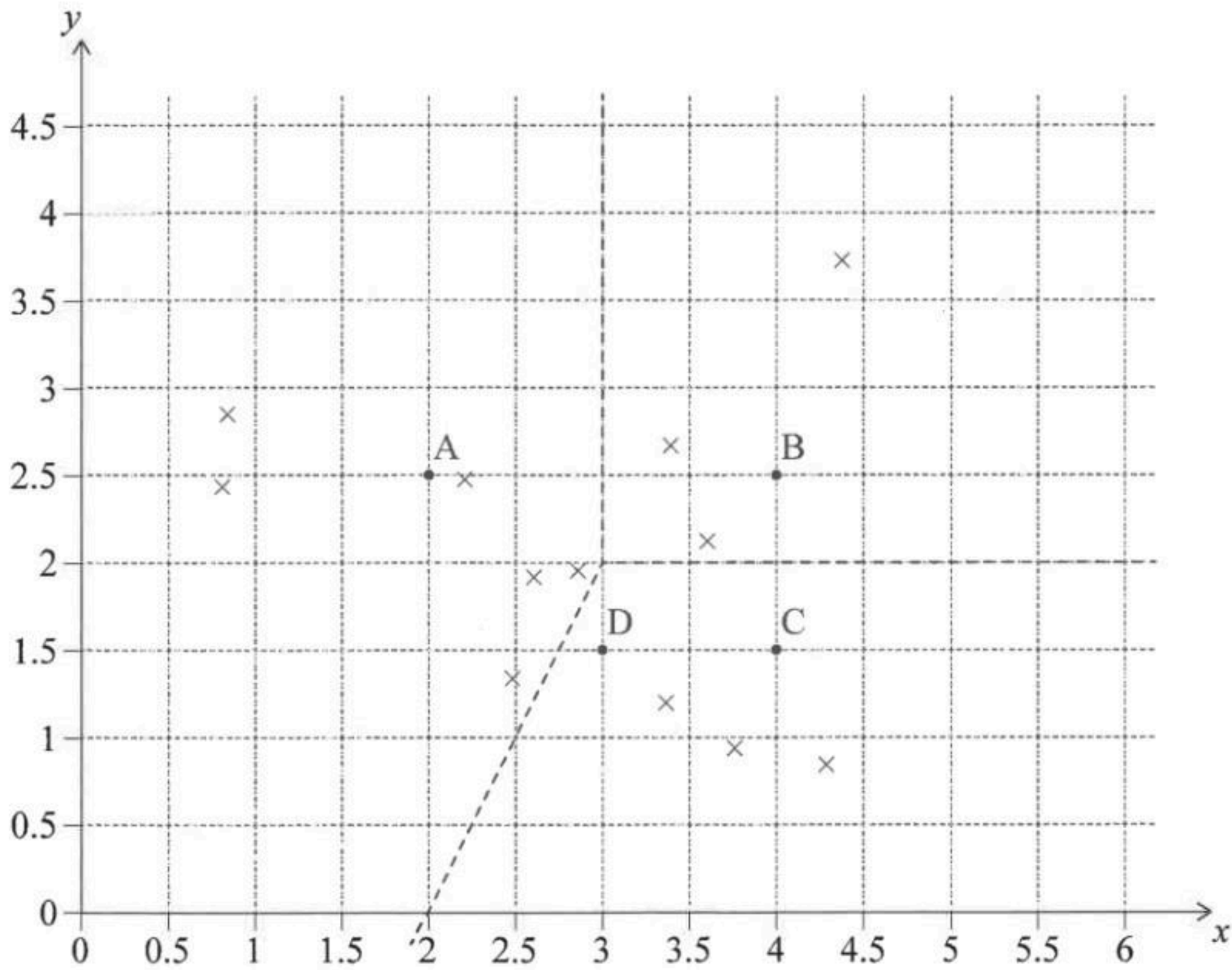
George is planning to visit Rome. He finds a list of the top 12 tourist attractions and their positions on a map of the city.

George also finds four possible hotels to stay at. He decides he will book the hotel that is closest to most attractions.

Each tourist attraction is marked with an \times on the following coordinate axes. The hotels are at the following points: $A(2, 2.5)$, $B(4, 2.5)$, $C(4, 1.5)$ and $D(3, 1.5)$. George draws a Voronoi diagram with A , B and C as the sites. The edges are shown as dashed lines on the diagram.

507

A026



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(Question 8 continued)

- (a) Draw the perpendicular bisectors of [AD], [BD] and [CD] on the diagram using three new dashed lines. [3]
- (b) Hence complete the Voronoi diagram with the four hotels as the sites. Represent the edges of the Voronoi diagram as solid lines. [2]
- (c) State which of the hotels is closest to most attractions. [1]

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10. [Maximum mark: 6]

Earthquakes are given a magnitude, M , based on the amount of energy released, S , in Joules. The formula for an earthquake's magnitude is

$$M = -10.7 + \frac{2}{3} \log_{10} S, \text{ for } S > 0.$$

In 1960, the Great Chilean earthquake released 2.1×10^{30} Joules of energy.

- (a) Calculate the magnitude of the Great Chilean earthquake. [2]

In 2024, the Noto earthquake in Japan had a magnitude of 7.5.

- (b) Calculate the amount of energy released by the Noto earthquake. [2]

The amount of energy released by the Great Chilean earthquake is k times the amount of energy released by the Noto earthquake.

- (c) Find the value of k . [2]

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12. [Maximum mark: 8]

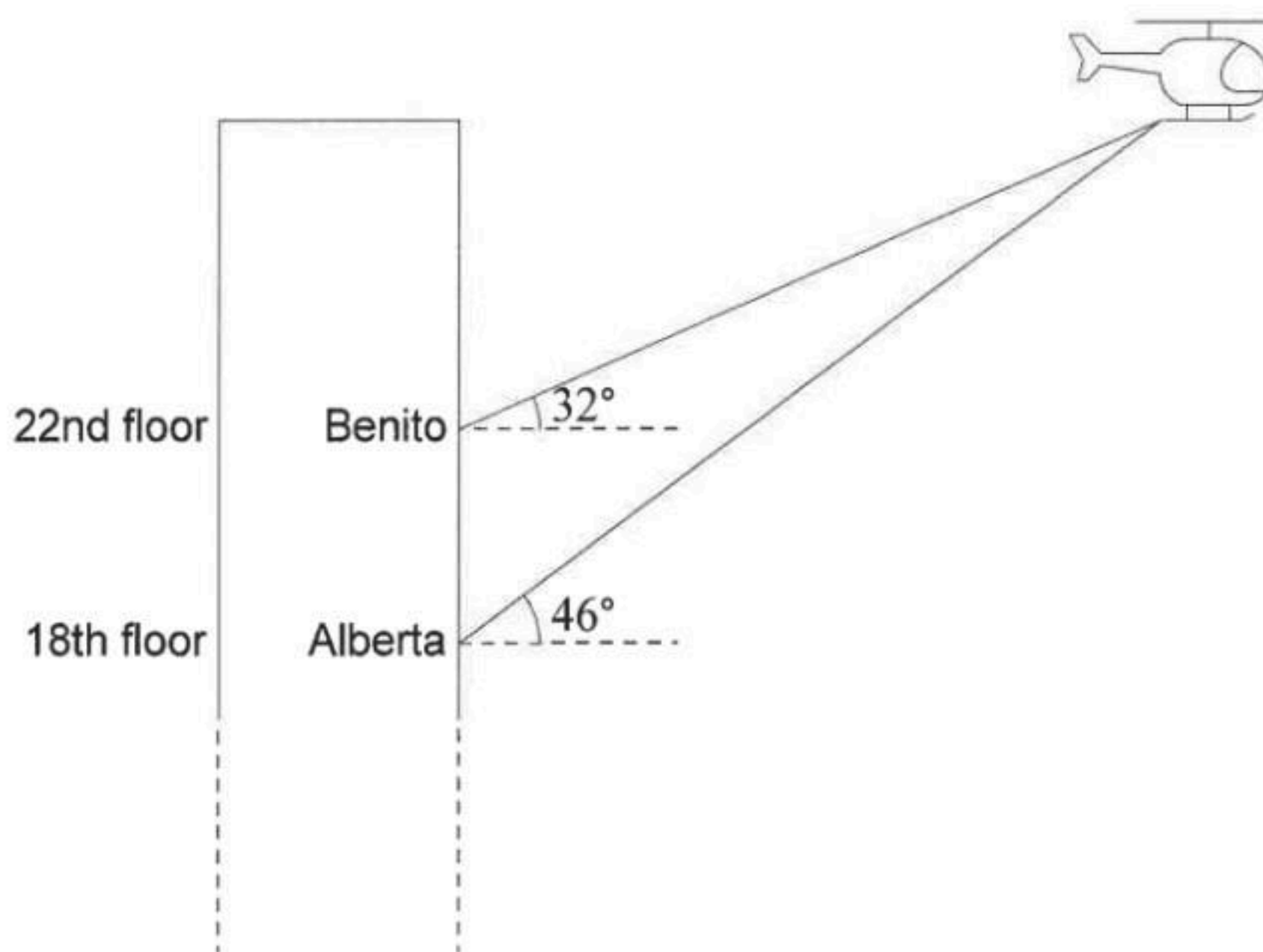
Alberta and Benito live in the same apartment building. Alberta lives on the 18th floor and Benito lives on the 22nd floor. The distance between each floor of the building is 3.75 metres.

(a) Find the vertical distance between the 18th and 22nd floors.

[1]

Alberta looks up at an angle of elevation of 46° and sees a helicopter hovering in the sky. At the exact same time, Benito looks up at an angle of elevation of 32° and sees the same helicopter. This is shown in the following diagram.

diagram not to scale



Carlos lives on the top floor of the building and sees the helicopter hovering at his eye level. You may assume that Alberta, Benito and Carlos are the same height.

(b) Find the number of floors in the building.

[7]

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507

A026