

IG-0606

Additional Maths

Equations, Inequalities  
and Graphs.

Notes

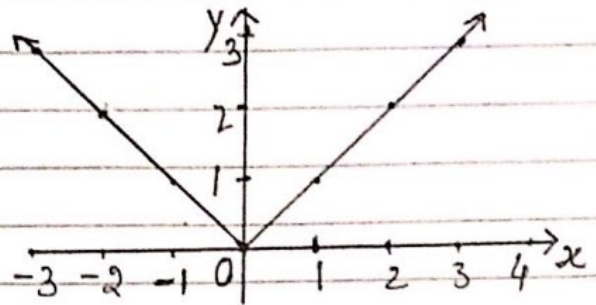
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§ Modulus Function:

Given  $x \in \mathbb{R}$

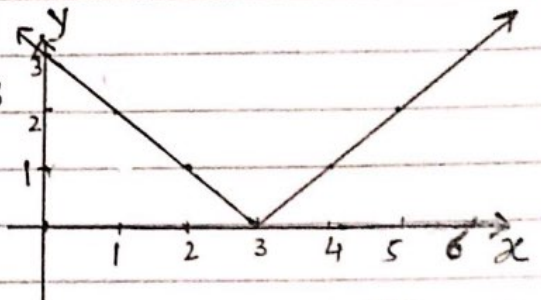
$$(i) y = |x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

x	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
y	3	2	1	0	1	2	3



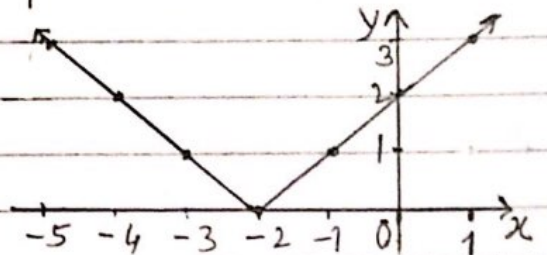
$$(ii) y = |x-3| = \begin{cases} (x-3) & \text{if } x \geq 3 \\ -(x-3) & \text{if } x < 3 \\ \text{or } (3-x) & \end{cases}$$

x	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
y	3	2	1	0	1	2	3



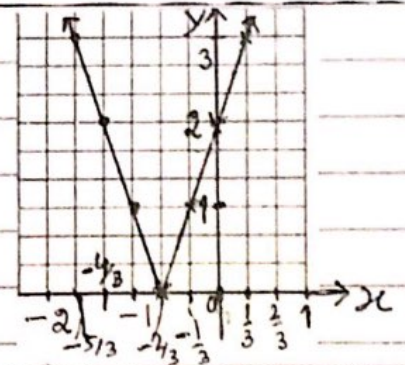
$$(iii) y = |x+2| = \begin{cases} x+2, & x \geq -2 \\ -(x+2), & x < -2 \end{cases}$$

x	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1
y	3	2	1	0	1	2	3



$$(iv) y = |3x+2| = \begin{cases} 3x+2, & x \geq -2/3 \\ -(3x+2), & x < -2/3 \end{cases}$$

x	-5/3	-4/3	-1	-2/3	-1/3	0	1/3	2/3
y	3	2	1	0	1	2	3	4



$$(v) y = |x^2 - 5x + 4|$$

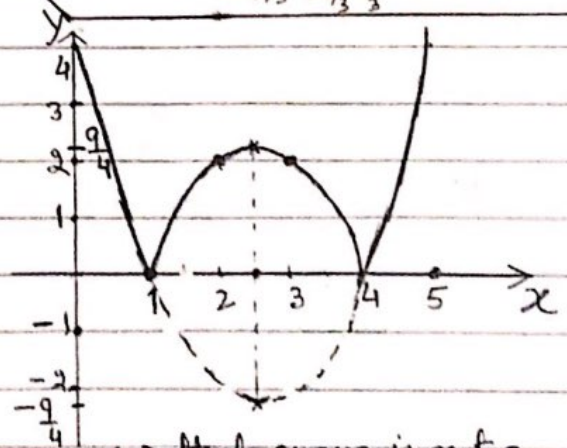
$$= |(x-1)(x-4)|$$

$$= \begin{cases} (x-1)(x-4); & (x-1)(x-4) \geq 0 \\ -(x-1)(x-4); & (x-1)(x-4) < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$= \begin{cases} (x-1)(x-4); & x \leq 1 \text{ or } x \geq 4 \\ -(x-1)(x-4); & 1 \leq x \leq 4 \end{cases}$$

(Apply solution of quad. inequality)

x	0	1	2	5/2	3	4	5
y	4	0	2	9/4	2	0	4



Note: (Dotted curve is not a part of graph)

§ Some Properties of Modulus functions:

(i)  $|a \times b| = |a| \cdot |b|$   $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$

(ii)  $\left| \frac{a}{b} \right| = \frac{|a|}{|b|}$

(iii)  $|a - x| = |x - a|$

(iv)  $|x| = |y| \Rightarrow x = y \text{ or } x = -y$

or  $|x| = |y| \Rightarrow x^2 = y^2$

(v)  $|x| = a \Rightarrow x = \pm a$  ;  $a > 0$

(vi)  $|x| \leq a \Rightarrow -a \leq x \leq a$  ;  $a > 0$

(vii)  $|x| \geq a \Rightarrow x \leq -a \text{ or } x \geq a$  ;  $a > 0$

(viii)  $|x - p| \leq a \Rightarrow p - a \leq x \leq p + a$  ;  $a \geq 0$

(ix)  $|x^2| = x^2 = |x|^2$  ;  $x \in \mathbb{R}$

(x)  $\sqrt{x^2} = |x|$  ;  $x \in \mathbb{R}$

(xi)  $|x| > |a| \Leftrightarrow x^2 > a^2$

(xii)  $|x| < |a| \Leftrightarrow x^2 < a^2$

(xiii)  $|f(x)| = \begin{cases} f(x) & ; f(x) \geq 0 \\ -f(x) & ; f(x) < 0 \end{cases}$

Example 1. Solve the equation  $|5 - 3x| = 10$  [M-17/22/Q1]... [3]Solution:  $|5 - 3x| = 10$ 

$$\Rightarrow 5 - 3x = \pm 10$$

$$\Rightarrow 5 - 3x = 10 \text{ or } 5 - 3x = -10$$

$$\Rightarrow 3x = -5 \text{ ; or } 3x = 15$$

$$x = -\frac{5}{3} \text{ or } x = 5 \checkmark$$

Alternate method.

$$|5 - 3x| = 10$$

$$\Rightarrow (5 - 3x)^2 = 10^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 9x^2 - 30x + 25 = 100$$

$$\Rightarrow 9x^2 - 30x - 75 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 3x^2 - 10x - 25 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x - 5)(3x + 5) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = -\frac{5}{3} \text{ or } 5 \checkmark$$

Example 2. Solve  $|5x+3| = |1-3x|$  [5-17/22/Q1] -- [3]

Solution:  $|5x+3| = |1-3x|$   
 $\Rightarrow 5x+3 = 1-3x$  or  $5x+3 = -(1-3x)$   
 $\Rightarrow 8x = -2$  or  $2x = -4$   
 $x = -\frac{2}{8}$  or  $x = -2$   
 $\therefore x = -0.25$  or  $-2$  ✓

Alternate method:

$|5x+3| = |1-3x|$   
 $\Rightarrow (5x+3)^2 = (1-3x)^2$   
 $\Rightarrow 25x^2 + 30x + 9 = 9x^2 - 6x + 1$   
 $\Rightarrow 16x^2 + 36x + 8 = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow 4x^2 + 9x + 2 = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow (4x+1)(x+2) = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow x = -\frac{1}{4}$  or  $-2$   
 $\Rightarrow x = -0.25$  or  $-2$  ✓

$\frac{2}{5}, -2$

Example 3. Solve  $2|x-1| = 3|x|$

Solution:  
 $2|x-1| = 3|x|$   
 $\Rightarrow 2(x-1) = 3x$  or  $2(x-1) = -3x$   
 $\Rightarrow 2x-2 = 3x$  or  $2x-2 = -3x$   
 $\Rightarrow x = -2$  or  $x = \frac{2}{5}$

Alternate method:

$2|x-1| = 3|x| \Rightarrow (2|x-1|)^2 = (3|x|)^2$   $\int |x|^2 = x^2$   
 $\Rightarrow 4(x-1)^2 = 9x^2$   
 $\Rightarrow 4(x^2 - 2x + 1) = 9x^2$   $\Rightarrow (x+2)(5x-2) = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow 4x^2 - 8x + 4 = 9x^2$   $\Rightarrow x = -2$  or  $\frac{2}{5}$  ✓  
 $\Rightarrow 5x^2 + 8x - 4 = 0$

Example 4 (i) On the axes, sketch the graph of  $y = 2 - x$  and  $y = |3 + 2x|$  --- [4]

(ii) Solve  $|3 + 2x| = 2 - x$  M-16/12/QL4 --- [3]

Solution  $y = 2 - x$  --- (1)

x	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2
y	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0

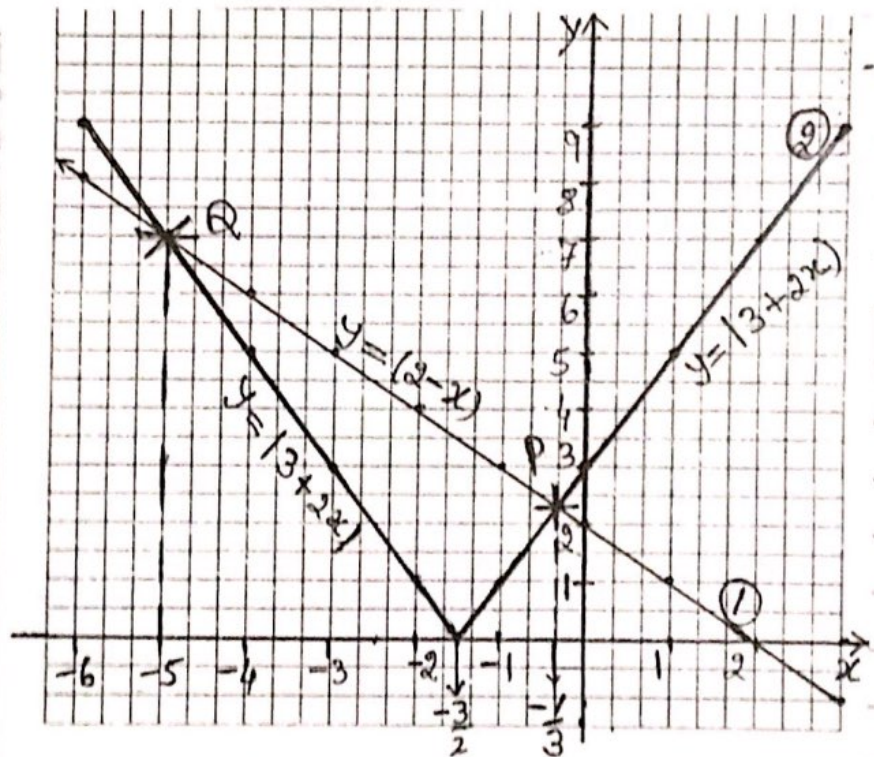
and  $y = |3 + 2x| = \begin{cases} 3 + 2x & ; 3 + 2x \geq 0 \text{ or } x \geq -\frac{3}{2} \\ -(3 + 2x) & ; x < -\frac{3}{2} \end{cases}$  --- (2)

x	-5	-4	-3	$-\frac{3}{2}$	-1	0	1	2	3
y	7	5	3	0	1	3	5	7	9

(ii) The two graphs (1) and (2) intersect at  $P(x = -\frac{1}{3})$ ;  $Q(x = 5)$

$\therefore$  Required Solutions  
 $x = -\frac{1}{3}$ ;  $-5$

$x = -\frac{1}{3}$  or  $x = -5$  ✓



(ii) Alternate method: To solve algebraically:

$$|3 + 2x| = 2 - x$$

$$\Rightarrow 3 + 2x = 2 - x \quad \text{or} \quad 3 + 2x = -(2 - x)$$

$$\Rightarrow 3x = -1 \quad \text{or} \quad x = 5$$

$$\Rightarrow x = -\frac{1}{3} \text{ or } 5. \checkmark$$

Example 5 (a) On the axes below, sketch the graph of  $y = |2x+5|$  and the graph of  $y = |2-x|$ , stating the coordinates of the points where graph meets the coordinate axes. ... [4]

(b) (i) solve  $|2x+5| = |2-x|$  ... [1]

(ii) solve  $|2x+5| \leq |2-x|$  ... [3]

SP-20/01/Q5

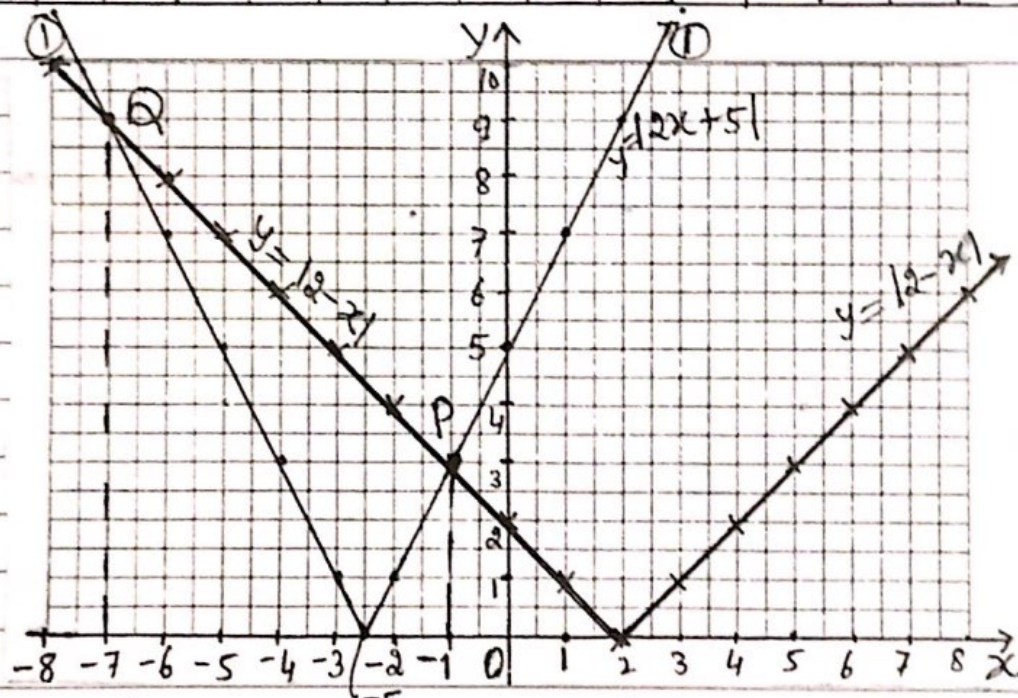
Solution:

$$y = |2x+5| = \begin{cases} 2x+5; & (2x+5) \geq 0 \text{ or } x \geq -\frac{5}{2} \\ -(2x+5); & x < -\frac{5}{2} \end{cases} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

x	-8	-7	-6	-5	-4	-3	$-\frac{5}{2}$	-2	-1	0	1
y	+11	+9	+7	+5	+3	+1	0	1	+3	5	7

And  $y = |2-x| = \begin{cases} 2-x; & 2-x \geq 0 \text{ or } x \leq 2 \\ x-2; & x > 2 \end{cases} \quad \text{--- (2)}$

x	-8	-7	-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
y	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3	4	5



graph (1) intersects the axes  $\begin{cases} x\text{-axis } x = -2.5 \\ y\text{-axis } y = 5 \end{cases}$

graph (2) intersects the axes  $\begin{cases} x\text{-axis at } x = 2 \\ y\text{-axis at } y = 2 \end{cases}$

(b) (i) Two graphs intersect at  $x = -1$  or  $-5$   
P or Q

(b) (ii)  $|2x+5| \leq |2-x|$   
Curve (1) is below curve (2) between P and Q

$\therefore$  Required Solution is  $-7 \leq x \leq -1$

Example 5(b) Alternate method: (Algebraic method)

Solve:  $|2x+5| \leq |2-x|$

$\Rightarrow (2x+5)^2 \leq (2-x)^2 \quad \because |x| \leq |y| \Rightarrow x^2 \leq y^2$

$\Rightarrow 4x^2 + 20x + 25 \leq 4 + x^2 - 4x$

$\Rightarrow 3x^2 + 24x + 21 \leq 0$

$\Rightarrow x^2 + 8x + 7 \leq 0 \text{ --- ①}$

$\Rightarrow (x+7)(x+1) \leq 0$

Critical values are  $-1$  and  $-7$

$\therefore$  Solution is  $-7 \leq x \leq -1$

$a < b$   
 $(x-a)(x-b) \leq 0$   
 $\Rightarrow a \leq x \leq b$

Using Graphic method:

To solve  $x^2 + 8x + 7 \leq 0 \text{ --- ①}$

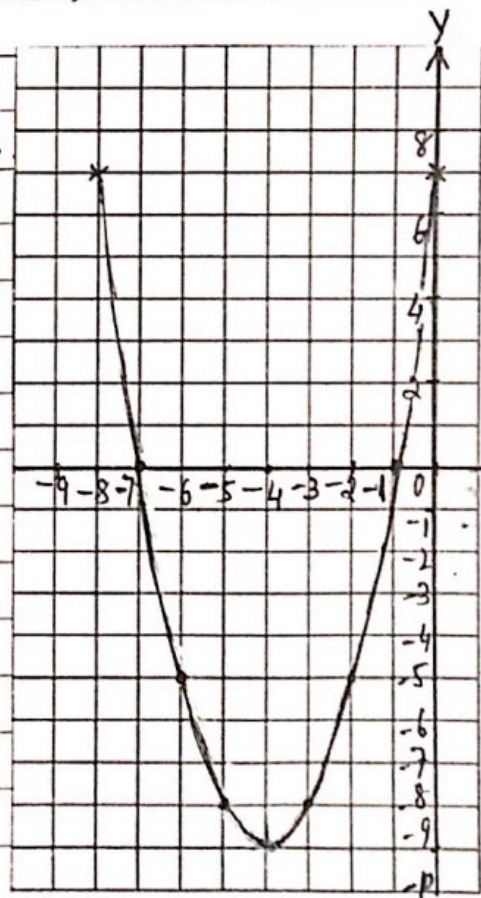
or  $(x+7)(x+1) \leq 0$

x	-8	-7	-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1	0
y	7	0	-5	-8	-9	-8	-5	0	7

The graph is below x-axis  
when  $-7 \leq x \leq -1$

$\therefore$  Solution of  $x^2 + 8x + 7 \leq 0$

when  $-7 \leq x \leq -1$  ✓



Example 6. Solve the inequality:  $|2x-5| > 3|2x+1|$

Solution:  $|2x-5| > 3|2x+1|$

$$\Rightarrow (2x-5)^2 > 3^2(2x+1)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 4x^2 - 20x + 25 > 9(4x^2 + 4x + 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow 4x^2 - 20x + 25 > 36x^2 + 36x + 9$$

$$\Rightarrow 32x^2 + 56x - 16 < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 4x^2 + 7x - 2 < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (4x-1)(x+2) < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -2 < x < \frac{1}{4} \checkmark$$

Alternate method: Graphically.

Draw the graph of  $y = |2x-5|$  and  $y = 3|2x+1|$  and solve.

$$|2x-5| = \begin{cases} 2x-5, & x \geq \frac{5}{2} \text{ --- (1)} \\ -(2x-5), & x < \frac{5}{2} \end{cases}$$

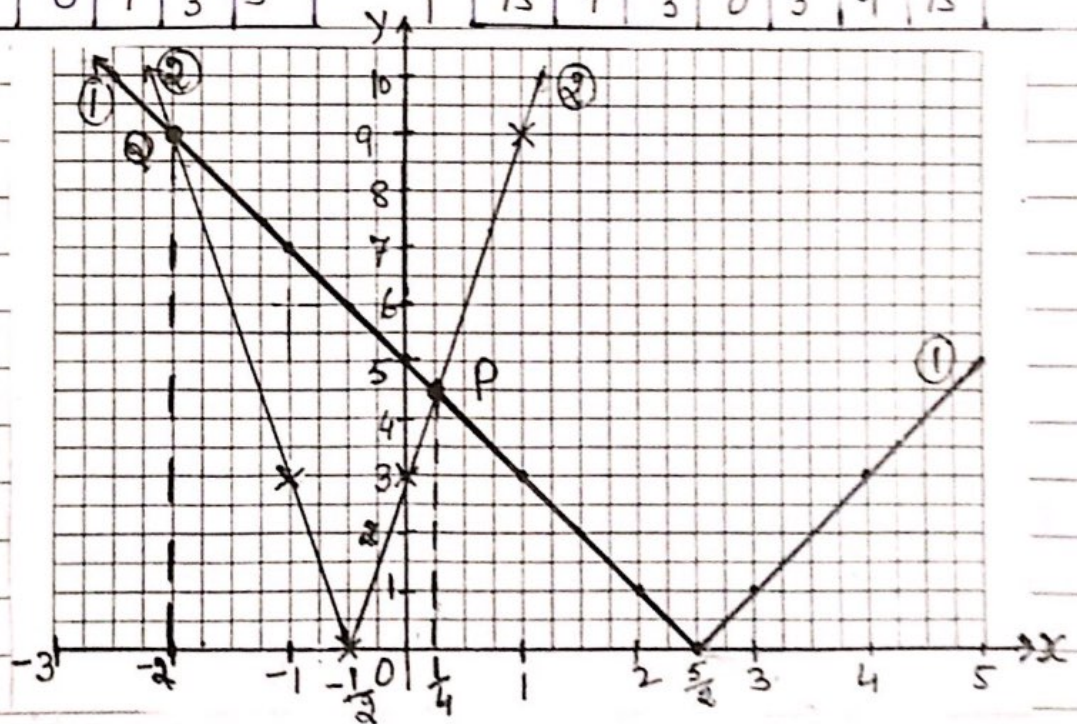
$$3|2x+1| = \begin{cases} 3(2x+1), & x \geq -\frac{1}{2} \text{ --- (2)} \\ -3(2x+1), & x < -\frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

x	0	1	2	5/2	3	4	5
y	5	3	1	0	1	3	5

-3	-2	-1	-1/2	0	1	2
15	9	3	0	3	9	15

Two graphs  
① and ②  
intersect at  
P( $x = \frac{1}{4}$ ) and  
Q( $x = -2$ )

Graph ② is  
below graph ①  
between  
 $-2$  &  $\frac{1}{4}$



∴ Required solution is:

$$-2 < x < \frac{1}{4}$$



Example 7: Solve:  $|3x-2| < 5$

Solution:

$$(\because |x| < a \Rightarrow -a < x < a)$$

$$|3x-2| < 5$$

$$\Rightarrow -5 < 3x-2 < 5$$

$$\Rightarrow -3 < 3x < 7$$

$$\Rightarrow -1 < x < \frac{7}{3} \checkmark$$

Alternate Method 1.

$$|3x-2| < 5$$

$$\Rightarrow (3x-2)^2 < 5^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 9x^2 - 12x + 4 < 25$$

$$\Rightarrow 9x^2 - 12x - 21 < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 3x^2 - 4x - 7 < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x+1)(3x-7) < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -1 < x < \frac{7}{3} \checkmark$$

$$a > 0$$

$$(|x| < a \Rightarrow x^2 < a^2)$$

$$[\because (x+1)(3x-7) = 0$$

$$x = -1 \text{ or } \frac{7}{3}]$$

Alternate method 2:

Solving Graphically:

Consider  $y = |3x-2|$  and  $y = 5$

$$y = |3x-2| = \begin{cases} 3x-2; & x \geq \frac{2}{3} \\ -(3x-2); & x < \frac{2}{3} \end{cases}$$

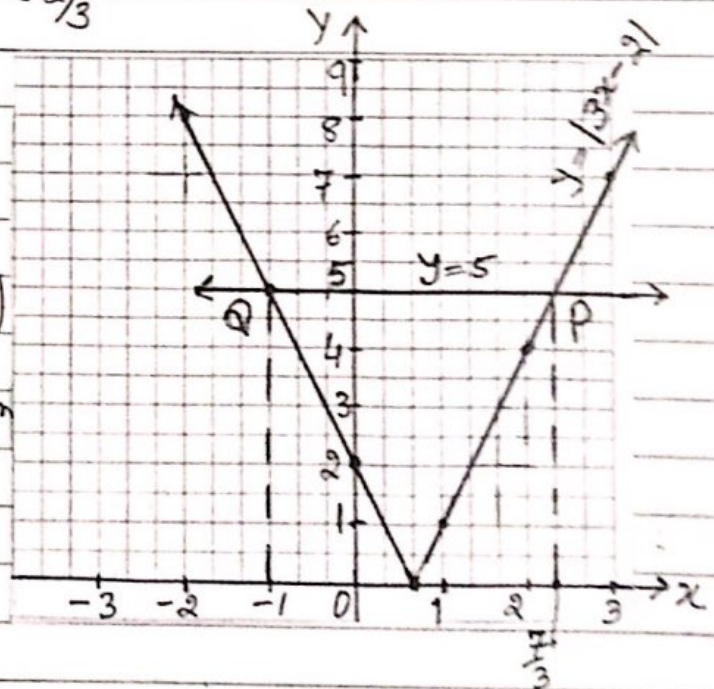
x	-2	-1	0	$\frac{2}{3}$	1	2	3
y	8	5	2	0	1	4	7

graphs of  $y = |3x-2|$  &  $y = 5$

Intersect at P( $x = \frac{7}{3}$ ) and Q( $x = -1$ )

$y = |3x-2|$  is below  $y = 5$  between  
 $x = -1$  and  $x = \frac{7}{3}$

$\therefore$  Required solution is  
 $-1 < x < \frac{7}{3} \checkmark$



Example 8. Solve  $|2x-5| > 1$

Solution  $|2x-5| > 1$

$$\Rightarrow 2x-5 > 1 \text{ or } 2x-5 < -1$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x > 6 \text{ or } 2x < 4$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{x > 3 \text{ or } x < 2 \checkmark}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} \because a > 0 \\ |x| > a \Rightarrow x > a \text{ or } x < -a \end{array} \right]$$

Alternate method 1.  $|2x-5| > 1$

$$\Rightarrow (2x-5)^2 > 1^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 4x^2 - 20x + 25 > 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 4x^2 - 20x + 24 > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - 5x + 6 > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x-3)(x-2) > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{x > 3 \text{ or } x < 2 \checkmark}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} a > 0 \\ \because |x| > a \\ \Rightarrow x^2 > a^2 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} a > b \\ \because (x-a)(x-b) > 0 \\ x > a \text{ or } x < b \end{array} \right]$$

Alternate method 2:

Solve Graphically, Draw the graphs of  $y = |2x-5|$  &  $y = 1$  and solve  $|2x-5| > 1$

Consider  $y = |2x-5|$  ——— (1) and  $y = 1$  ——— (2)

$$= \begin{cases} (2x-5); & x \geq \frac{5}{2} \\ -(2x-5); & x < \frac{5}{2} \end{cases}$$

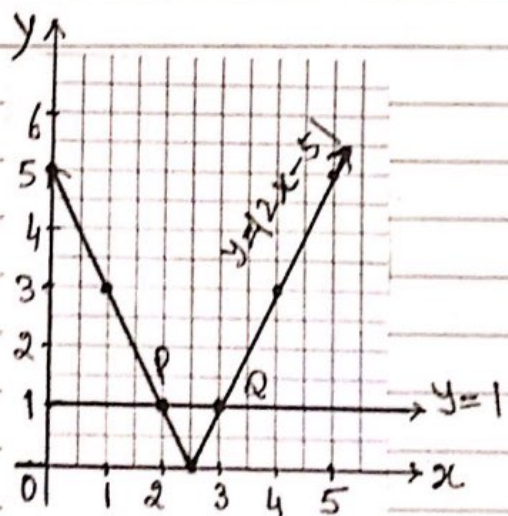
x	0	1	2	$\frac{5}{2}$	3	4	5
y	5	3	1	0	1	3	5

The graphs of (1) and (2) intersect at P(x=2) and Q(x=3).

Now graph (1) is above graph (2) for  $x > 3$  or  $x < 2$

$\therefore$  The required solution:

$$\underline{x > 3 \text{ or } x < 2 \checkmark}$$



Example 9: Solve  $|x-2| + |1-x| = 4$  — (1)

Solution:

$$|x-2| + |1-x| = 4$$

$$\text{or } |x-2| = 4 - |1-x|$$

$$\therefore x-2 = 4 - |1-x| \text{ — (2) or } x-2 = |1-x| - 4 \text{ — (3)}$$

$$\Rightarrow |1-x| = 6-x$$

$$\Rightarrow 1-x = 6-x \text{ or } 1-x = x-6$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = 6 \text{ or } 2x = 7$$

$$x = \frac{7}{2} \checkmark$$

Check  $x = \frac{7}{2}$  in (1)

$$|\frac{7}{2}-2| + |1-\frac{7}{2}| = 4$$

$$\frac{3}{2} + \frac{5}{2} = 4 \text{ True}$$

$\therefore x = \frac{7}{2} \checkmark$  is one solution.

$$\Rightarrow |1-x| = 2+x$$

$$\Rightarrow 1-x = 2+x \text{ or } 1-x = -(2+x)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x = -1 \text{ or } 1 = -2x$$

$$\Rightarrow x = -\frac{1}{2} \checkmark$$

Check  $x = -\frac{1}{2}$  in (1)

$$|-\frac{1}{2}-2| + |1-(-\frac{1}{2})| = 4$$

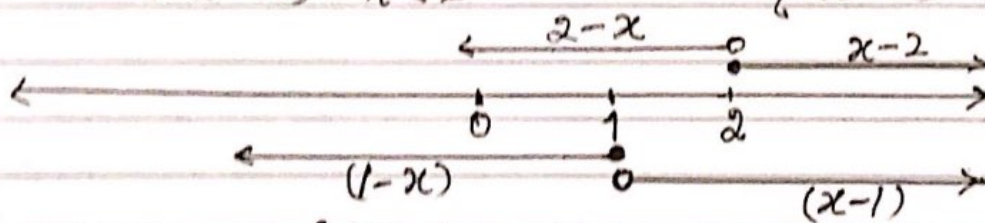
$$\frac{5}{2} + \frac{3}{2} = 4 \text{ True}$$

$\therefore x = -\frac{1}{2}$  is also a soln.

$\therefore$  Required solution are  $x = \frac{7}{2}$  or  $-\frac{1}{2} \checkmark$

Alternate method (Using Number line)

$$|x-2| = \begin{cases} x-2 & ; x \geq 2 \\ 2-x & ; x < 2 \end{cases} \text{ and } |1-x| = \begin{cases} 1-x & ; \text{or } x \leq 1 \\ x-1 & ; x > 1 \end{cases}$$



$$\therefore |x-2| + |1-x| = \begin{cases} 3-2x & \text{if } x \leq 1 \\ 1 & \text{if } 1 < x < 2 \\ 2x-3 & \text{if } x \geq 2 \end{cases}$$

Now solution of (1)  $3-2x = 4$  or  $2x-3 = 4$

$$\Rightarrow x = -\frac{1}{2} \text{ or } x = \frac{7}{2} \checkmark$$

both these values satisfy the given equation (1).

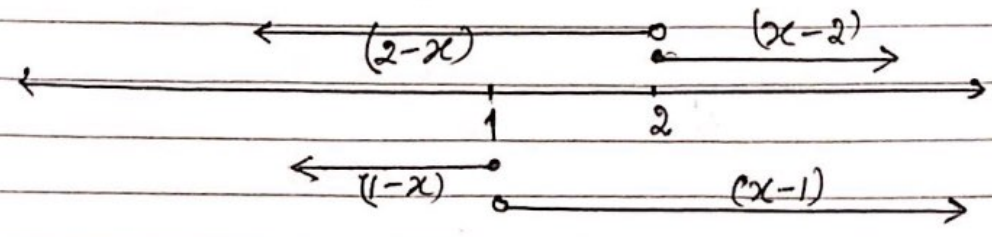
$\therefore$  Req. solution.  $x = -\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{7}{2} \checkmark$

Example 9. Altmethod 2. Solve  $|x-2| + |1-x| = 4$  — (1)

- (i) Draw the graph of  $y = |x-2| + |1-x|$  — (2)
- and  $y = 4$  — (3)

(ii) Hence solve  $|x-2| + |1-x| = 4$

Solution (i)  $|x-2| = \begin{cases} x-2 & \text{if } x \geq 2 \\ 2-x & \text{if } x < 2 \end{cases}$  and  $|1-x| = \begin{cases} 1-x & \text{if } x \leq 1 \\ x-1 & \text{if } x > 1 \end{cases}$

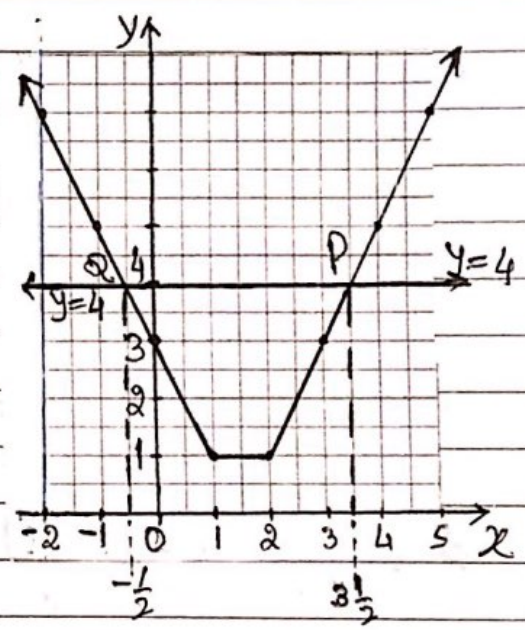


$$\therefore |x-2| + |1-x| = \begin{cases} 3-2x & \text{if } x \leq 1 \\ 1 & \text{if } 1 < x < 2 \\ 2x-3 & \text{if } x \geq 2 \end{cases}$$

x	-2	-1	0	1	3/2	2	3	4	5
y	7	5	3	1	1	1	3	5	7

Graphs of (2) & (3) intersect at  $P(x = 3\frac{1}{2})$  and  $Q(x = -\frac{1}{2})$

$\therefore$  Required solution of equation (1) is  $x = -\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{7}{2}$



§ Sketching graphs of cubic polynomials and their moduli and solving the cubic inequations graphically.

Example 10.(a) On the axes, sketch the graph of,  
 $y = \frac{1}{5}(x-2)(x-4)(x+5)$ , showing the coordinates of the points where the graph meets the coordinate axes. ---[2]

(b) Explain why your sketch in part (a) can be used to solve  $(x-2)(x-4)(x+5) \leq 0$  ---[1]

(c) Hence solve,  $(x-2)(x-4)(x+5) \leq 0$  --[1]

(d) Sketch the graph of  $y = |\frac{1}{5}(x-2)(x-4)(x+5)|$  ---[2]

(e) Solve  $(x-2)(x-4)(x+5) \geq 0$  [SP-20/02/02]-[1]

Solution:  $y = \frac{1}{5}(x-2)(x-4)(x+5)$

(a) has zeros at  $x=2, 4$  and  $-5$  ✓  
 Curve intersects the  $x$ -axis at  $(2,0), (4,0)$  and  $(-5,0)$ .

Now when  $x=0, y=8 \Rightarrow$  Curve intersects  $y$ -axis at  $(0,8)$  ✓

$x$	$-\infty$	$-6$	$-5$	$-3$	$-1$	$0$	$1$	$2$	$3$	$4$	$5$	$\infty$
$y$	$-\infty$	$-16$	$0$	$14$	$12$	$8$	$3.6$	$0$	$-1.6$	$0$	$6$	$\infty$

when  $x \rightarrow \infty, y \rightarrow \infty$

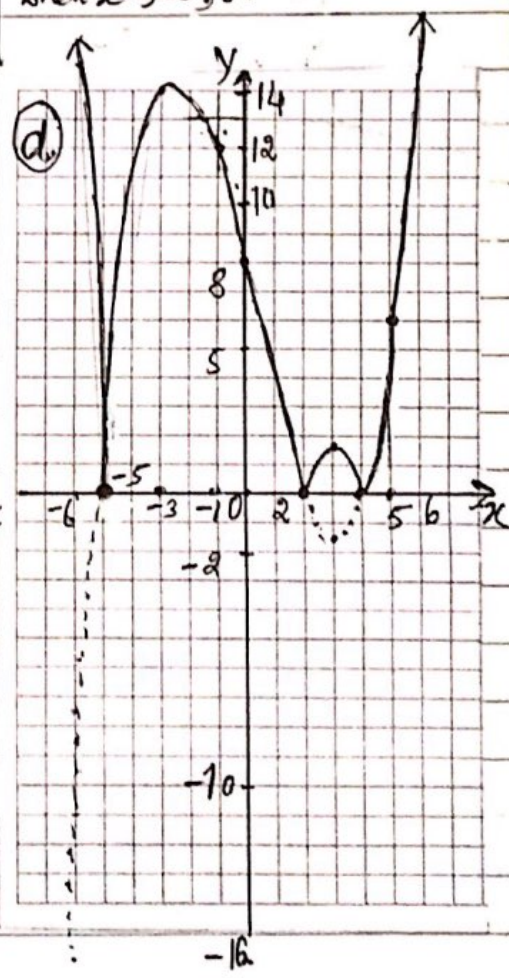
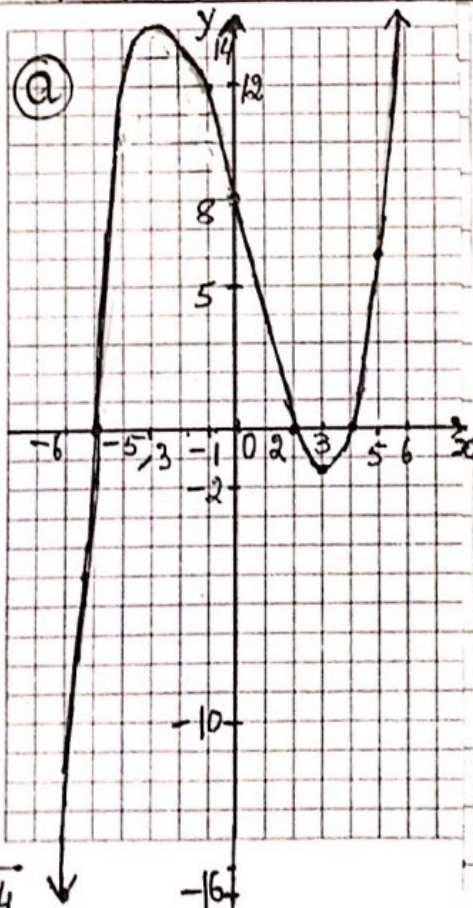
(b) As multiplying by 5 does not change the value of  $x$ .

(c)  
 $x \leq 5$   
 or  $2 \leq x \leq 4$

(d) Graph of  $|\frac{1}{5}(x-2)(x-4)(x+5)|$  is obtained by taking the reflection of graph below  $x$ -axis in  $x$ -axis above it.

Graph of  $\frac{1}{5} |(x-2)(x-4)(x+5)|$  is given by (d)

(e)  $-5 \leq x \leq 2$  or  $x \geq 4$



Example 11.

(a) Sketch the graph of  $y = (x-2)^2(x+1)$

(b) Sketch the graph of  $y = |(x-2)^2(x+1)|$

(c) Solve  $(x-2)^2(x+1) \geq 0$

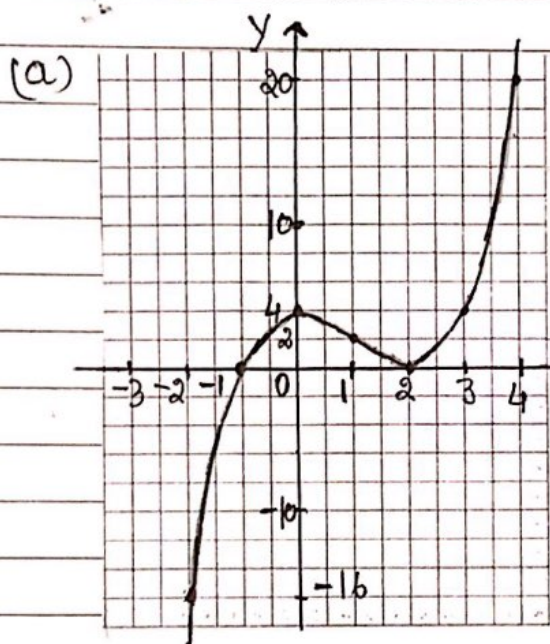
(d)  $(x-2)^2(x+1) \leq 0$

Solution (a)  $y = (x-2)^2(x+1)$  — (7)

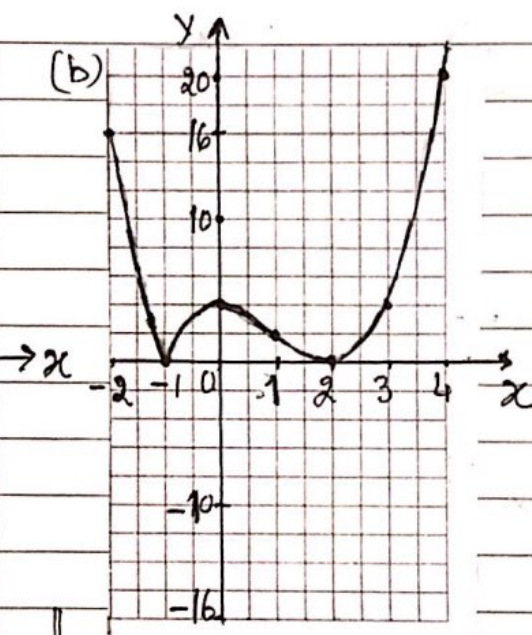
Intersects x-axis at  $(2,0)$  and  $(-1,0)$

Intersects y-axis at  $(0,4)$

x	$x \rightarrow -\infty$	-2	-1	0	1	2	3	4	$x \rightarrow +\infty$
y	$y \rightarrow -\infty$	-16	0	4	2	0	4	20	$y \rightarrow +\infty$



$y = (x-2)^2(x+1)$



$y = |(x-2)^2(x+1)|$

(c)  $x \geq -1$

(d)  $x \leq -1$

§ Solving a quadratic equation after using a substitution.

Example 12. Solve:  $9x^4 - 29x^2 + 20 = 0$

or  $9(x^2)^2 - 29x^2 + 20 = 0$

$9y^2 - 29y + 20 = 0$

Put  $x^2 = y$

$9y^2 - 20y - 9y + 20 = 0$

$y(9y - 20) - 1(9y - 20) = 0$

$(9y - 20)(y - 1) = 0$

$y = \frac{20}{9}$  or  $y = 1$

$y = \frac{20}{9} \Rightarrow x^2 = \frac{20}{9}$

$x = \pm \sqrt{\frac{20}{9}}$

$= \pm \frac{2\sqrt{5}}{3}$

or  $y = 1 \Rightarrow x^2 = 1$

$\Rightarrow x = \pm 1 \checkmark$

$\therefore x = 1, -1, \frac{2\sqrt{5}}{3}, \frac{-2\sqrt{5}}{3}$

Example 13. Solve:  $x^4 - 2x^2 - 8 = 0$

or  $(x^2)^2 - 2x^2 - 8 = 0$

Put  $y = x^2$

$y^2 - 2y - 8 = 0$

$y^2 - 4y + 2y - 8 = 0$

$y(y - 4) + 2(y - 4) = 0$

$(y - 4)(y + 2) = 0$

$y = 4$  or  $y = -2$

or  $x^2 = 4$

$x = \pm 2 \checkmark$

$x^2 = -2x$

$[y = x^2$

square of real number  
is not negative.

$\therefore x = 2, -2 \checkmark$

Example 14. Solve.  $x^{2/3} + x^{1/3} - 2 = 0$

or  $(x^{1/3})^2 + x^{1/3} - 2 = 0$       put  $x^{1/3} = y$

or  $y^2 + y - 2 = 0$

$y^2 + 2y - y - 2 = 0$

$y(y+2) - 1(y+2) = 0$

$(y+2)(y-1) = 0$

$\therefore y = -2$  or  $y = 1$

$\Rightarrow x^{1/3} = -2$  or  $x^{1/3} = 1$

$\Rightarrow x = (-2)^3$  or  $x = 1^3$

$\therefore x = -8$  or  $1$  ✓

$[y = x^{1/3}]$

Example 15. Solve.  $x - 5\sqrt{x} + 6 = 0$

or  $(\sqrt{x})^2 - 5\sqrt{x} + 6 = 0$       put  $\sqrt{x} = y$

or  $y^2 - 5y + 6 = 0$

or  $y^2 - 3y - 2y + 6 = 0$

$y(y-3) - 2(y-3) = 0$

$(y-3)(y-2) = 0$

$\therefore y = 3$  or  $y = 2$

$\sqrt{x} = 3$  or  $\sqrt{x} = 2$

$\therefore x = 9$  or  $x = 4$  ✓

$[ \because y = \sqrt{x} ]$

Example 16.

Solve.  $x - 4\sqrt{x} - 21 = 0$

or  $(\sqrt{x})^2 - 4\sqrt{x} - 21 = 0$       put  $\sqrt{x} = y$

$y^2 - 4y - 21 = 0$

$y^2 - 7y + 3y - 21 = 0$

$y(y-7) + 3(y-7) = 0$

$(y-7)(y+3) = 0$

$\therefore y = 7$  or  $y = -3$

$\therefore \sqrt{x} = 7$  or  $\sqrt{x} = 3$

$\therefore \sqrt{x} = 7$  or  $\sqrt{x} = -3$  ✗

$x = 7^2$       as  $\sqrt{x} \geq 0$

$x = 49$  ✓

$\therefore x = 49$  ✓