# THE LINE (Q 2, PAPER 2)

## 1996

- 2 (a) The line L contains the points p(3, -1) and q(0, 2).
  - (i) Find the slope of L.
  - (ii) Find the equation of L.
  - (iii) L intersects the x-axis at the point r. Find the coordinates of r.
  - (iv) Calculate the ratio

area of triangle *rpo* area of triangle *pqo* 

where o is the origin.

(b) The equation of the line *M* is y-4x-c=0.

M contains the point p(1, 6).

- (i) Find the value of c.
- (ii) The origin is the midpoint of [pq]. Find the equation of the line K if K is parallel to M and K contains the point q.
- (iii) Find the equation of the line L if L is perpendicular to M and L contains the point q.

#### SOLUTION

2 (a) (i)



$$\begin{array}{ccc}
p(3,-1) & q(0,2) \\
\downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow \\
x_1 & y_1 & x_2 & y_2
\end{array}$$

Slope of *L*: 
$$m = \frac{2 - (-1)}{0 - 3} = \frac{2 + 1}{0 - 3} = \frac{3}{-3} = -1$$

2 (a) (ii)

The equation of a line is a formula satisfied by every point (x, y) on the line.

Equation of a line:  $y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$  ......

Equation of L: point  $q(0, 2) = (x_1, x_2)$ , slope m = -1

$$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$$

$$\Rightarrow y - 2 = -1(x - 0)$$

$$\Rightarrow y - 2 = -x$$

 $\therefore x + y - 2 = 0$ 

2 (a) (iii)

To find the *x*-intercept: Put y = 0. To find the *y*-intercept: Put x = 0.

To find the x-intercept of L, put y = 0.

$$y = 0$$
:  $x + (0) - 2 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 2 \Rightarrow r(2, 0)$  is the *x*-intercept.

2 (a) (iv) The area, A, of  $\Delta aob$  with vertices  $o(0, 0), a(x_1, y_1), b(x_2, y_2)$  is given by:

$$y = 0: x + (0) -$$
 ...... 6

#### **STEPS**

- 1. Translate one point to (0, 0).
- 2. Do the same translation to the other two points.
- **3**. Apply the formula.

Area of triangle rpo: One of the points is already (0, 0) so all you have to do is apply the formula to the other 2 points.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
r(2,0) & p(3,-1) \\
\downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow \\
x_1 & y_1 & x_2 & y_2
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc} r(2,0) & p(3,-1) \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ x_1 & y_1 & x_2 & y_2 \end{array} & A_1 = \frac{1}{2} |(2)(-1) - (0)(3)| \\ \Rightarrow A_1 = \frac{1}{2} |-2 - 0| = \frac{1}{2} |-2| = \frac{1}{2} (2) \\ \therefore A_1 = 1 \text{ square unit}$$

Area of triangle *pqo*:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
p(3,-1) & q(0,2) \\
\downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow \\
x_1 & y_1 & x_2 & y_2
\end{array}$$

$$p(3, -1) \quad q(0, 2)$$

$$\downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$$

$$x_1 \quad y_1 \quad x_2 \quad y_2$$

$$A_2 = \frac{1}{2} |(3)(2) - (-1)(0)|$$

$$\Rightarrow A_2 = \frac{1}{2} |6 + 0| = \frac{1}{2} |6| = \frac{1}{2} (6)$$

$$\therefore A_2 = 3 \text{ square units}$$

$$\frac{A_1}{A_2} = \frac{1}{3} \Rightarrow A_1 : A_2 = 1 : 3$$

2 (b) (i)

IS A POINT ON A LINE?

To show a point is on a line, put the point into the equation.

$$p(1, 6) \in y - 4x - c = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (6) - 4(1) - c = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 6 - 4 - c = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 - c = 0$$

$$\therefore c = 2$$

2 (b) (ii)

To find the equation of *K* you need a point on *K* and the slope of *K*.

### GENERAL FORM OF A STRAIGHT LINE

Every straight line can be written in the form: ax + by + c = 0. You can read off the slope of a straight line from its equation.

Slope: 
$$m = -\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)$$
 ...... 5

**REMEMBER IT AS:** Slope  $m = -\left(\frac{\text{Number in front of } x}{\text{Number in front of } y}\right)$ 

$$M: y-4x-2=0 \Rightarrow 4x-y+2=0$$

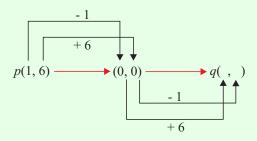
Slope of *M*: 
$$m = -\frac{4}{-1} = 4$$

Parallel lines have the same slope.

 $p(1, 6) \to (0, 0) \to q(-1, -6)$ 

Slope of K: m = 4

The image of p(1, 6) through the origin (0, 0) by a central symmetry is the point q.



Equation of *K*: Point  $(x_1, y_1) = q(-1, -6)$ , slope m = 4.

$$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$$

$$\Rightarrow$$
  $y - (-6) = 4(x - (-1))$ 

$$\Rightarrow$$
 y + 6 = 4(x+1)

$$\Rightarrow$$
 y + 6 = 4x + 4

$$\therefore 4x - y - 2 = 0$$

### 2 (b) (iii)

FINDING THE PERPENDICULAR SLOPE: Invert the slope and change its sign.

Equation of *L*: Point  $(x_1, y_1) = q(-1, -6)$ , slope  $m = -\frac{1}{4}$ .

$$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$$

$$\Rightarrow y - (-6) = -\frac{1}{4}(x - (-1))$$

$$\Rightarrow$$
 4(y+6) = -1(x+1)

$$\Rightarrow$$
 4 y + 24 = -x - 1

$$\therefore x + 4y + 25 = 0$$