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8. **In this question you must show all stages of your working.**

Solutions relying entirely on calculator technology are not acceptable.

A curve has equation

$$y = 256x^4 - 304x - 35 + \frac{27}{x^2} \qquad x \neq 0$$

(a) Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$

(3)

(b) Hence find the coordinates of the stationary points of the curve.

(5)

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Question 8 continued

Q8

(Total 8 marks)

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9. A scientist is using carbon-14 dating to determine the age of some wooden items.

The equation for carbon-14 dating an item is given by

$$N = k\lambda^t$$

where

- N grams is the amount of carbon-14 **currently** present in the item
- k grams was the **initial** amount of carbon-14 present in the item
- t is the number of years since the item was made
- λ is a constant, with $0 < \lambda < 1$

(a) Sketch the graph of N against t for $k = 1$

(2)

Given that it takes 5700 years for the amount of carbon-14 to reduce to half its initial value,

(b) show that the value of the constant λ is 0.999878 to 6 decimal places.

(2)

Given that Item A

- is known to have had 15 grams of carbon-14 present initially
- is thought to be 3250 years old

(c) calculate, to 3 significant figures, how much carbon-14 the equation predicts is currently in Item A.

(2)

Item B is known to have initially had 25 grams of carbon-14 present, but only 18 grams now remain.

(d) Use algebra to calculate the age of Item B to the nearest 100 years.

(3)

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