

For questions 2 and 3, show your work in the space provided.

2. Solve the inequality $\frac{x+1}{2} \geq \frac{3}{x+2}$. [25]

Solution: First bring everything to one side:

$$\frac{x+1}{2} - \frac{3}{x+2} \geq 0.$$

Simplify:

$$\frac{(x+1)(x+2) - 6}{2(x+2)} \geq 0; \quad \frac{x^2 + 3x - 4}{2(x+2)} \geq 0; \quad \frac{(x-1)(x+4)}{2(x+2)} \geq 0.$$

Testing:

$$\underline{\quad - \quad} \quad \underline{-4 \quad} \quad \underline{\quad + \quad} \quad \underline{-2 \quad} \quad \underline{\quad - \quad} \quad \underline{\quad 1 \quad} \quad \underline{\quad + \quad}$$

The point $x=-2$ does not belong to the solution set, since it is not in the domain.

Answer: $x \in [-4, -2) \cup (1, \infty)$.

3. Find an equation of the line parallel to $3x - 2y = 1$ passing through the centre of the circle $x^2 - 4x + y^2 + 6y = 3$. [25]

Solution: Complete the squares:

$$(x-2)^2 - 4 + (y+3)^2 - 9 = 3.$$

Thus

$$(x-2)^2 + (y+3)^2 = 16.$$

So, the point $(2, -3)$ is the centre of the circle. We can now proceed in two ways.

Method 1: Any line parallel to $3x - 2y = 1$ has an equation with $3x - 2y$ on the left hand side, and some constant on the right hand side. To find this constant, let us substitute the coordinates $(2, -3)$. We get $3x - 2y = 3 \cdot 2 - 2(-3)$, so $3x - 2y = 12$.

Method 2: The line $3x - 2y = 1$ has slope $m = \frac{3}{2}$, so any line parallel to it has the same slope. Now, an equation of the line going through the point $(2, -3)$ with the slope $m = \frac{3}{2}$ is

$$y = -3 + m(x-2), \quad y = -3 + \frac{3}{2}(x-2), \quad y = \frac{3}{2}x - 6.$$

Answer: $3x - 2y = 12$ OR $y = \frac{3}{2}x - 6$.

END OF PAPER