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## National 5 Maths Nature of the Roots

SQA past paper and specimen paper  
questions and answers by topic

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**National 5 Maths**  
**SQA 2013 Specimen**  
**Paper 2 Question 12**

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Find the range of values of  $p$  such that the equation  $px^2 - 2x + 3 = 0$ ,  $p \neq 0$ , has no real roots.

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Answer:

$$p > \frac{1}{3}$$

**National 5 Maths**  
**SQA 2016 Paper 1**  
**Question 6**

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Determine the nature of the roots of the function  $f(x) = 7x^2 + 5x - 1$ .

**2**

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Answer:

Discriminant = 53 so there are two distinct real roots.

**National 5 Maths**  
**SQA 2018 Paper 1**  
**Question 8**

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Determine the nature of the roots of the function  $f(x) = 2x^2 + 4x + 5$ .

2

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Answer:

Discriminant =  $-24$  so the function has no real roots.

**National 5 Maths**  
**SQA 2021 Paper 1**  
**Question 8**

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Determine the nature of the roots of the function  $f(x) = x^2 + 4x - 7$ .

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2

Answer:

Discriminant = 44 so there are two distinct real roots.

**National 5 Maths**  
**SQA 2023 Paper 1**  
**Question 5**

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Determine the nature of the roots of the function  $f(x) = 4x^2 + 6x - 1$ .

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2

Answer:

Discriminant = 52 so there are two distinct real roots.