Leave blank

2. $$f(x) = x^3 + 3x^2 + 4x - 12$$

(a) Show that the equation $f(x) = 0$ can be written as

$$x = \sqrt{\left(\frac{4(3-x)}{(3+x)}\right)}, \qquad x \neq -3$$

(3)

The equation $x^3 + 3x^2 + 4x - 12 = 0$ has a single root which is between 1 and 2

(b) Use the iteration formula

$$x_{n+1} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{4(3-x_n)}{(3+x_n)}\right)}, \; n \geqslant 0$$

with $x_0 = 1$ to find, to 2 decimal places, the value of x_1, x_2 and x_3.

(3)

The root of $f(x) = 0$ is α.

(c) By choosing a suitable interval, prove that $\alpha = 1.272$ to 3 decimal places.

(3)

Mark Scheme on Next Page

Question Number	Scheme	Marks
2.	(a) $x^3+3x^2+4x-12=0 \Rightarrow x^3+3x^2=12-4x$	
	$\Rightarrow x^2(x+3)=12-4x$	M1
	$\Rightarrow x^2=\dfrac{12-4x}{(x+3)} \Rightarrow x=\sqrt{\dfrac{4(3-x)}{(x+3)}}$	dM1A1*
		(3)
	(b) $x_1=1.41,\quad awrt\ x_2=1.20 \quad x_3=1.31$	M1A1,A1
		(3)
	(c) Choosing (1.2715,1.2725) or tighter containing root 1.271998323	M1
	$\text{f}(1.2725)=(+)0.00827... \quad \text{f}(1.2715)=-0.00821....$	M1
	Change of sign⇒α=1.272	A1
		(3)
		(9 marks)

Notes

(a) M1 Moves from f(x)=0, which may be implied by subsequent working, to $x^2(x\pm3)=\pm12\pm4x$ by separating terms and factorising in either order. No need to factorise rhs for this mark.

dM1 Divides by '(x+3)' term to make x^2 the subject, then takes square root. No need for rhs to be factorised at this stage

A1* CSO. This is a given solution. Do not allow sloppy algebra or notation with root on just numerator for instance. The 12-4x needs to have been factorised.

(b) **Note that this appears B1,B1,B1 on EPEN**

M1 An attempt to substitute $x_0=1$ into the iterative formula to calculate x_1.

This can be awarded for the sight of $\sqrt{\dfrac{4(3-1)}{(3+1)}}$, $\sqrt{\dfrac{8}{4}}$, $\sqrt{2}$ and even 1.4

A1 $x_1=1.41$. The subscript is not important. Mark as the first value found, $\sqrt{2}$ is A0

A1 $x_2=\text{awrt}\ 1.20 \quad x_3=\text{awrt}\ 1.31$. Mark as the second and third values found. Condone 1.2 for x_2

(c) **Note that this appears M1A1A1 on EPEN**

M1 Choosing the interval (1.2715,1.2725) or tighter containing the root 1.271998323.
Continued iteration is not allowed for this question and is M0

M1 Calculates f(1.2715) and f(1.2725), or **the** tighter interval with at least 1 correct to 1 sig fig rounded or truncated.
Accept f(1.2715) = -0.008 1sf rounded or truncated. Also accept f(1.2715) = -0.01 2dp
Accept f(1.2725) = (+)0.008 1sf rounded or truncated. Also accept f(1.2725) = (+)0.01 2dp

A1 Both values correct (see above),
A valid reason; Accept change of sign, or >0 <0, or f(1.2715) ×f(1.2725)<0
And a (minimal) conclusion; Accept hence root or α=1.272 or QED or $\square$

Alternative to (a) working backwards

2(a)

	$x=\sqrt{\dfrac{4(3-x)}{(x+3)}} \Rightarrow x^2=\dfrac{4(3-x)}{(x+3)} \Rightarrow x^2(x+3)=4(3-x)$	M1
	$x^3+3x^2=12-4x \Rightarrow x^3+3x^2+4x-12=0$	dM1
	States that this is f(x)=0	A1* (3)

Alternative starting with the given result and working backwards

M1 Square (both sides) and multiply by (x+3)

dM1 Expand brackets and collect terms on one side of the equation =0

A1 A statement to the effect that this is f(x)=0

An acceptable answer to (c) with an example of a tighter interval

M1 Choosing the interval (1.2715, 1.2720). This contains the root 1.2719(98323)

M1 Calculates f(1.2715) and f(1.2720), with at least 1 correct to 1 sig fig rounded or truncated.
Accept f(1.2715) = -0.008 1sf rounded or truncated f(1.2715) = -0.01 2dp
Accept f(1.2720) = (+)0.00003 1sf rounded or f(1.2720) = (+)0.00002 truncated 1sf

A1 Both values correct (see above),
A valid reason; Accept change of sign, or >0 <0, or f(1.2715) ×f(1.2720)<0
And a (minimal) conclusion; Accept hence root or α=1.272 or QED or $\square$

x	f(*x*)
1.2715	-0.00821362
1.2716	-0.00656564
1.2717	-0.00491752
1.2718	-0.00326927
1.2719	-0.00162088
1.2720	+0.00002765
1.2721	+0.00167631
1.2722	+0.00332511
1.2723	+0.00497405
1.2724	+0.00662312
1.2725	+0.00827233

An acceptable answer to (c) using g(x) where g(x)= $\sqrt{\dfrac{4(3-x)}{(x+3)}}-x$

2nd M1 Calculates g(1.2715) and g(1.2725), or **the** tighter interval with at least 1 correct to 1 sig fig rounded or truncated.
g(1.2715) = 0.0007559. Accept g(1.2715) = awrt (+)0.0008 1sf rounded or awrt 0.0007 truncated.
g(1.2725)=-0.00076105. Accept g(1.2725) = awrt -0.0008 1sf rounded or awrt -0.0007 truncated.