3. (i)

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & a & 4 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

where a is a constant.

(a) For which values of a does the matrix $\mathbf{M}$ have an inverse?

(2)

Given that $\mathbf{M}$ is non-singular,

(b) find $\mathbf{M}^{-1}$ in terms of a

(4)

(ii) Prove by induction that for all positive integers n,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 6 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^n = \begin{pmatrix} 3^n & 0 \\ 3(3^n - 1) & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

(6)