

2. (a) Show that the binomial expansion of  $(4+5x)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  in ascending powers of  $x$ , up to and including the term in  $x^2$  is

$$2 + \frac{5}{4}x + kx^2,$$

giving the value of the constant  $k$  as a simplified fraction.

**(4)**

- (b) (i) Use the expansion from part (a), with  $x = \frac{1}{10}$ , to find an approximate value for  $\sqrt{2}$ .

Give your answer in the form  $\frac{p}{q}$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are integers.

- (ii) Explain why substituting  $x = \frac{1}{10}$  into this binomial expansion leads to a valid approximation.

**(4)**

**(Total for Question 2 is 8 marks)**