

Question	Scheme	Marks	AOs
1	Attempts $f(-3) = 3 \times (-3)^3 + 2a \times (-3)^2 - 4 \times -3 + 5a = 0$	M1	3.1a
	Solves linear equation $23a = 69 \Rightarrow a = \dots$	M1	1.1b
	$a = 3$ cso	A1	1.1b
		(3)	
(3 marks)			

M1: Chooses a suitable method to set up a correct equation in a which may be unsimplified.

This is mainly applying $f(-3) = 0$ leading to a correct equation in a .

Missing brackets may be recovered.

Other methods may be seen but they are more demanding

If division is attempted must produce **a correct equation** in a similar way to the $f(-3) = 0$ method

$$\begin{array}{r}
 3x^2 + (2a-9)x + 23 - 6a \\
 x+3 \overline{) 3x^3 + 2ax^2 - 4x + 5a} \\
 \underline{3x^3 + 9x^2} \\
 (2a-9)x^2 - 4x \\
 \underline{(2a-9)x^2 + (6a-27)x} \\
 (23-6a)x + 5a \\
 \underline{(23-6a)x + 69 - 18a}
 \end{array}$$

So accept $5a = 69 - 18a$ or equivalent, where it implies that the remainder will be 0

You may also see variations on the table below. In this method the terms in x are equated to -4

$3x^2$	$(2a-9)x$	$\frac{5a}{3}$	
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x	$3x^3$	$(2a-9)x^2$	$\frac{5a}{3}x$
3	$9x^2$	$(6a-27)x$	$5a$

$6a - 27 + \frac{5a}{3} = -4$

M1: This is scored for an attempt at solving a linear equation in a .

For the main scheme it is dependent upon having attempted $f(\pm 3) = 0$. Allow for a linear equation in a leading to $a = \dots$. Don't be too concerned with the mechanics of this.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 3x^2 \dots \\
 x+3 \overline{) 3x^3 + 2ax^2 - 4x + 5a}
 \end{array}$$

Via division accept followed by a remainder in a set $= 0 \Rightarrow a = \dots$

or two terms in a are equated so that the remainder $= 0$

FYI the correct remainder via division is $23a + 12 - 81$ oe

A1: $a = 3$ cso

An answer of 3 with no incorrect working can be awarded 3 marks