

2. (a) Find, in ascending powers of  $x$ , the first four terms of the binomial expansion of

$$(1 - 9x)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

giving each term in simplest form.

(3)

(b) Give a reason why  $x = -\frac{2}{9}$  should **not** be used in the expansion to find an approximation to  $\sqrt{3}$

(1)