

**9** A particle moves in the  $x$ - $y$  plane so that at time  $t$  seconds, where  $t \geq 0$ , its coordinates are given by

$$x = e^{2t} - 4e^t + 3, \quad y = 2e^{-3t}.$$

**(a)** Explain why the path of the particle never crosses the  $x$ -axis. **[1]**

**(b)** Determine the exact values of  $t$  when the path of the particle intersects the  $y$ -axis. **[2]**

**(c)** Show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{3}{2e^{4t} - e^{5t}}$ . **[4]**

**(d)** Hence find the coordinates of the particle when its path is parallel to the  $y$ -axis. **[3]**