Question			Answer	Mark	AO	Guidance
4	(a)		$a^3 - 7a^2 \times a + 6a^3 = 0$ or $a^3 - 7a^3 + 6a^3 = 0$	B1 [1]	2.1	Must see this expression with $x = a$ substituted, oe, and must state that it is = 0. If simplified then must be correct i.e. $7a^3 - 7a^3 = 0$ or $6a^3 - 6a^3 = 0$. Or long division (or equivalent method) leading to $(x - a)(x^2 + ax - 6a^2)$ with no remainder.
4	(b)		 $(x - a)(x^2 + ax - 6a^2)$ $(x - a)(x + 3a)(x - 2a)$ or $x = \frac{-a \pm \sqrt{a^2 + 24a^2}}{2}$ $x = 2a,\ x = a, x = -3a$	M1 A1 M1 A1 [4]	1.1 1.1 1.1 1.1	Attempt to find the quadratic factor by any method (e.g. long division or comparing coefficients). May be implied by A1. Correct quadratic factor (NB this working may be seen in **(a)**) Factorising (so that leading coefficient is 1 and product = their $-6a^2$) or using formula correctly with their quadratic expression. **Three** correct solutions (and no others) www imply 4/4.