

# 6. BINOMIAL THEOREM

(1 x 2) + (2 x 7) = 16Marks

 IMP FORMULAS, KEY CONCEPTS 

## 1.1) Binomial theorem for integral index:

$$(x+y)^n = {}^n C_0 x^n + {}^n C_1 x^{n-1} y + {}^n C_2 x^{n-2} y^2 + \dots + {}^n C_r x^{n-r} y^r + \dots + {}^n C_n y^n, n \in \mathbb{N}$$

## 1.2) The general term of the binomial expansion is $T_{r+1} = {}^n C_r x^{n-r} y^r$ .

## 2) Standard Binomial expansion:

$$(1+x)^n = 1 + nx + {}^n C_2 x^2 + \dots + {}^n C_r x^r + \dots + x^n = C_0 + C_1 x + C_2 x^2 + \dots + C_r x^r + \dots + C_n x^n$$

## 3) In the expansion of $(1+x)^n$ (i) the coefficient of $x^r$ is ${}^n C_r$ = the coefficient of $(r+1)^{\text{th}}$ term

(ii) the coefficient of  $r^{\text{th}}$  term is  ${}^n C_{r-1}$

## 4) Middle term and greatest coefficient:

(a) If  $n$  is even then (i) the middle term of  $(1+x)^n$  is  $T_{\frac{n}{2}+1}$  (ii) greatest coefficient is  ${}^n C_{\frac{n}{2}}$

(b) If  $n$  is odd then (i) two middle terms are  $T_{\frac{n+1}{2}}, T_{\frac{n+3}{2}}$

(ii) greatest coefficients are  ${}^n C_{\frac{n-1}{2}}, {}^n C_{\frac{n+1}{2}}$

## 5) Numerically greatest term(s) in the expansion of $(1+\alpha)^n$ : Find $\frac{(n+1)|\alpha|}{|\alpha|+1}$

If this value is a mixed fraction with integral part 'r' then the numerically greatest term is  $T_{r+1}$

If the value is an integer, say  $r$  then  $T_r$  and  $T_{r+1}$  are the two numerically greatest terms.

## 6) Binomial Theorem for Rational Index:

$$6.1) (1+X)^{-n} = 1 - \frac{n}{1!} X + \frac{n(n+1)}{2!} X^2 - \dots + (-1)^r \frac{n(n+1)\dots(n+r-1)}{r!} X^r + \dots$$

$$6.2) (1-X)^{-n} = 1 + \frac{n}{1!} X + \frac{n(n+1)}{2!} X^2 + \dots + \frac{n(n+1)\dots(n+r-1)}{r!} X^r + \dots$$

$$6.3) (1-x)^{\frac{-p}{q}} = 1 + \frac{p}{1} \left(\frac{x}{q}\right) + \frac{p(p+q)}{1.2} \left(\frac{x}{q}\right)^2 + \dots + \frac{p(p+q)\dots(p+(r-1)q)}{r!} \left(\frac{x}{q}\right)^r + \dots$$

$$6.4) (1+x)^{\frac{-p}{q}} = 1 - \frac{p}{1} \left(\frac{x}{q}\right) + \frac{p(p+q)}{1.2} \left(\frac{x}{q}\right)^2 - \dots + (-1)^r \frac{p(p+q)\dots(p+(r-1)q)}{r!} \left(\frac{x}{q}\right)^r + \dots$$

7) If  $x$  is a real number and  $|x| < 1$ , then (i)  $(1+x)^{-1} = 1 - x + x^2 - x^3 + \dots + (-1)^r x^r + \dots$

(ii)  $(1+x)^{-2} = 1 - 2x + 3x^2 - 4x^3 + \dots + (-1)^r \cdot (r+1)x^r + \dots$

8) Useful Formulae: (i)  ${}^n C_r + {}^n C_{r-1} = (n+1)C_r$ ;  ${}^n C_r + {}^n C_{r+1} = (n+1)C_{r+1}$

$$(ii) \frac{{}^n C_r}{{}^n C_{r-1}} = \frac{n-r+1}{r}; \frac{{}^n C_{r+1}}{{}^n C_r} = \frac{n-r}{r+1}$$

(iii) The number of terms in the expansion of  $(a+b+c)^n = \frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2}$