

Thank you very much for your participation in the Sri Lankan Mathematics Competition SLMC 2018. Your score on this competition will be posted against your index number in [www.slmathsolympiad.org](http://www.slmathsolympiad.org). The best 30 students in the SLMC 2018 will be invited to participate in the Sri Lankan Mathematics Challenge Competition 2018. In this competition we have tried to showcase mathematics by posing puzzle type problems covering various areas of mathematics. Though the problems require very little knowledge of mathematics, not more than a Year 10 student's basic mathematics knowledge, some problems might require the mathematical maturity of a student in a higher grade. We hope that this kind of problems will stimulate your interest in mathematics beyond classroom mathematics. If you didn't do too well, don't be discouraged! You may have great mathematical talent, but it requires nurturing!! You have to learn problem solving strategies. Solve math problems for fun. Doing mathematics outside the school curriculum box will greatly improve your school mathematics.

As you know doing these problems in the exam hall under the pressure of time is difficult. This way may not bring the best in you. We hope that you will leisurely do and think about these problems after the competition. Looking back at the problems you solved and reflecting on them will improve your mathematical thinking. Some of these problems have deep mathematical ideas in them. History shows us that some mathematical ideas we have to learn in school evolved through long periods of time baffling the greatest mathematical minds in those times. For example negative numbers. Leo Rogers says at <http://nrich.maths.org/5961>:

Although the first set of rules for dealing with negative numbers was stated in the 7th century by the Indian mathematician Brahmagupta, it is surprising that in 1758 the British mathematician Francis Maseres was claiming that negative numbers "... darken the very whole doctrines of the equations and make dark of the things which are in their nature excessively obvious and simple".

Read that article. Mathematics is a beautiful subject. But to see the beauty you have to engage in good mathematics. We hope that this competition will help you to see the beauty in mathematics.

For any comments/suggestions: Dr. Chanakya Wijeratne ([cjw@maths.cmb.ac.lk](mailto:cjw@maths.cmb.ac.lk))

Index No

Medium

TAMIL

## SRI LANKAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION 2018

April 7, 2018

10:30 am – 12 noon

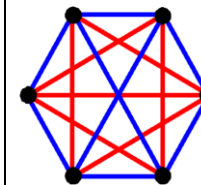
This question paper has **30 multiple choice questions**. The duration of this competition is **90 minutes**. **Answer all questions**. Please read the questions carefully and **fill in the correct lettered circle (only one) against the correct question number in the given answer sheet**. Note that no responses get at least two points while incorrect responses receive zero points. **Please write your index number in the box provided at the top right corner of your question paper.**

### Scoring System for the Sri Lankan Mathematics Competition

Questions 1 to 10 : 5 points for correct response, 2 points for no response, and 0 points for incorrect response.

Questions 11 to 20 : 6 points for correct response, 2 points for no response, and 0 points for incorrect response.

Questions 21 to 30 : 8 points for correct response, 3 points for no response, and 0 points for incorrect response.



Sri Lanka Olympiad Mathematics  
Foundation