

E3.6 Parallel lines

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 14 marks

KEY WORDS parallel • gradient • y-intercept • rearrange
• substitute

Objective

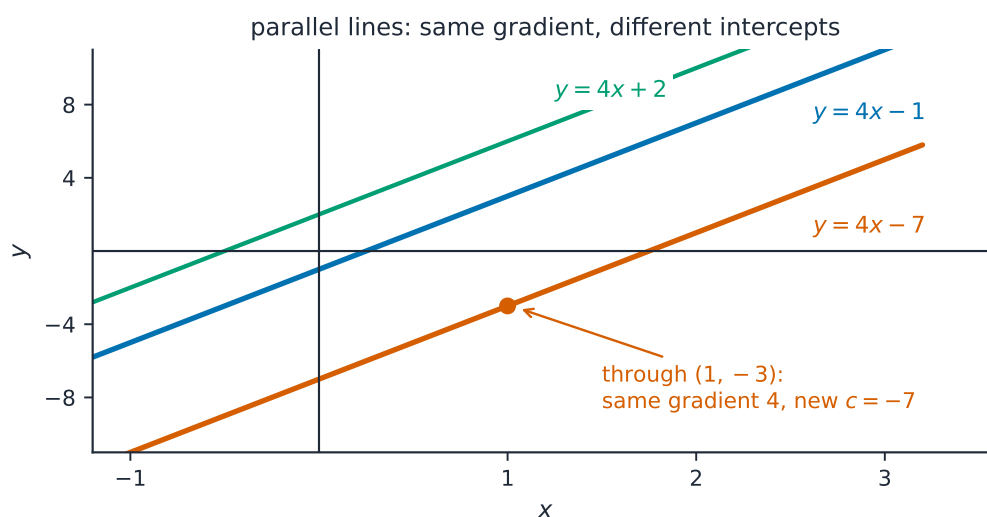
Build the skills to answer Extended exam questions on **parallel lines** – recognising that parallel lines have **equal gradients**, finding the equation of a line parallel to a given one, and deciding whether two equations describe parallel lines.

You must be able to:

- write down the gradient of a line parallel to a given line
- find the equation of the line parallel to a given line through a given point
- decide whether two equations are parallel by rearranging both into $y = mx + c$

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

■ Same gradient, different intercept



$$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1) \text{ (same } m\text{)}$$

Changing c slides the line up or down; only m changes its direction

- **Rule:** parallel $\Rightarrow m_1 = m_2$. The y -intercepts must be **different**, or the two are the same line.
- **Rearrange before comparing.** $4y = 8x - 3$ is $y = 2x - 0.75$, so it IS parallel to $y = 2x + 1$.
- **Through a point:** keep m , then substitute the point to find the new c . Parallel to $y = 3x + 1$ through $(2, 9)$: $9 = 3(2) + c$, so $c = 3$ and $y = 3x + 3$.
- A question asking you to *show* two lines are parallel wants both gradients stated and compared.

Answer shapes (marked by **method marks** – M1 for a correct method, A1 for the correct answer): the rearranged equation, and the substitution that finds c , are the method marks.

2 Practice

2.1 Write down the gradient of any line parallel to $y = 5x - 2$. [1]

2.2 Find the equation of the line parallel to $y = 3x + 1$ that passes through $(2, 9)$. [3]

2.3 Show that $y = 2x + 1$ and $4y = 8x - 3$ are parallel. [2]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The line L has equation $3y = 12x - 9$.

(a) Find the gradient of L . [2]

(b) Find the equation of the line parallel to L that passes through $(-1, 2)$. [3]

3.2 Find the equation of the line parallel to $y = -\frac{1}{2}x + 4$ that passes through $(6, 5)$. [3]
