

## **STEP II, 2005, Q12 EC**

*Q12* This was the most popular question of Section C. Attempts generally lacked coherence and this was true whether responses were exclusively symbolic and/or a tree diagram was employed. Very few candidates produced complete and correct working for all sections.

In the first part, most responses produced a valid argument to establish the meaning of the basic quantity  $G = ap + bq$  and from there could establish the first result.

Both (ii) and (iii) can be worked easily in terms of  $G$ , or by use of a tree diagram, but progress was usually negated by lack of a clear meaningful notation and also by the supposition that it was the same twin who responded to both e-mails.



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