

STEP II, 2007, Q8 EC

- 8 This question was answered poorly; many candidates were unable to sketch the graphs correctly, even given the results derived earlier in the question. For example, many graphs did not touch at (2, 8). Also, many graphs were drawn with turning points, when a simple check of the derivative would have revealed that there were none. In part (iii), the effect of the negative coefficient of x^3 was often ignored.

Graph sketching is a very important skill in all mathematical subjects – from Economics to Engineering. STEP candidates are strongly advised to practise this skill as much as possible.



NextStepMaths.com

To view mark schemes, fully worked solutions and examiner's comments, and for more details about tutoring and other services offered, go to [NextStepMaths.com](https://www.NextStepMaths.com)