

Algebraic methods 7B

1 a

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 + 5x + 3 \\ \hline x+1 \overline{) x^3 + 6x^2 + 8x + 3} \\ \underline{x^3 + x^2} \\ 5x^2 + 8x \\ \underline{5x^2 + 5x} \\ 3x + 3 \\ \underline{3x + 3} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{x^3 + 6x^2 + 8x + 3}{x+1} \\ = (x+1)(x^2 + 5x + 3)$$

d

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 + 4x + 5 \\ \hline x-3 \overline{) x^3 + x^2 - 7x - 15} \\ \underline{x^3 - 3x^2} \\ 4x^2 - 7x \\ \underline{4x^2 - 12x} \\ 5x - 15 \\ \underline{5x - 15} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{x^3 + x^2 - 7x - 15}{x-3} \\ = (x-3)(x^2 + 4x + 5)$$

b

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 + 6x + 1 \\ \hline x+4 \overline{) x^3 + 10x^2 + 25x + 4} \\ \underline{x^3 + 4x^2} \\ 6x^2 + 25x \\ \underline{6x^2 + 24x} \\ x + 4 \\ \underline{x + 4} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{x^3 + 10x^2 + 25x + 4}{x+4} \\ = (x+4)(x^2 + 6x + 1)$$

e

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 - 3x - 2 \\ \hline x-5 \overline{) x^3 - 8x^2 + 13x + 10} \\ \underline{x^3 - 5x^2} \\ -3x^2 + 13x \\ \underline{-3x^2 + 15x} \\ -2x + 10 \\ \underline{-2x + 10} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{x^3 - 8x^2 + 13x + 10}{x-5} \\ = (x-5)(x^2 - 3x - 2)$$

c

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 - 3x + 7 \\ \hline x+2 \overline{) x^3 - x^2 + x + 14} \\ \underline{x^3 + 2x^2} \\ -3x^2 + x \\ \underline{-3x^2 - 6x} \\ 7x + 14 \\ \underline{7x + 14} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{x^3 - x^2 + x + 14}{x+2} \\ = (x+2)(x^2 - 3x + 7)$$

f

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 + 2x + 8 \\ \hline x-7 \overline{) x^3 - 5x^2 - 6x - 56} \\ \underline{x^3 - 7x^2} \\ 2x^2 - 6x \\ \underline{2x^2 - 14x} \\ 8x - 56 \\ \underline{8x - 56} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{x^3 - 5x^2 - 6x - 56}{x-7} \\ = (x-7)(x^2 + 2x + 8)$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \begin{array}{r} 6x^2 + 3x + 2 \\ \hline x+4 \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{r} 6x^3 + 27x^2 + 14x + 8 \\ - 6x^3 - 24x^2 \\ \hline 3x^2 + 14x \end{array} \right) \\ \begin{array}{r} 3x^2 + 12x \\ \hline 2x + 8 \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{r} 2x + 8 \\ - 2x \\ \hline 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

So $6x^3 + 27x^2 + 14x + 8$
 $= (x+4)(6x^2 + 3x + 2)$

$$\begin{array}{r} \begin{array}{r} 2x^2 - 3x - 4 \\ \hline x-6 \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{r} 2x^3 - 15x^2 + 14x + 24 \\ - 2x^3 + 12x^2 \\ \hline -3x^2 + 14x \end{array} \right) \\ \begin{array}{r} -3x^2 + 18x \\ \hline -4x + 24 \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{r} -4x + 24 \\ - 4x \\ \hline 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

So $2x^3 - 15x^2 + 14x + 24$
 $= (x-6)(2x^2 - 3x - 4)$

$$\begin{array}{r} \begin{array}{r} 4x^2 + x - 5 \\ \hline x+2 \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{r} 4x^3 + 9x^2 - 3x - 10 \\ - 4x^3 - 8x^2 \\ \hline x^2 - 3x \end{array} \right) \\ \begin{array}{r} x^2 + 2x \\ \hline -5x - 10 \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{r} -5x - 10 \\ - 5x \\ \hline 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

So $4x^3 + 9x^2 - 3x - 10$
 $= (x+2)(4x^2 + x - 5)$

$$\begin{array}{r} \begin{array}{r} -5x^2 + 3x + 5 \\ \hline x+6 \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{r} -5x^3 - 27x^2 + 23x + 30 \\ - 5x^3 - 30x^2 \\ \hline 3x^2 + 23x \end{array} \right) \\ \begin{array}{r} 3x^2 + 18x \\ \hline 5x + 30 \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{r} 5x + 30 \\ - 5x \\ \hline 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

So $-5x^3 - 27x^2 + 23x + 30$
 $= (x+6)(-5x^2 + 3x + 5)$

$$\begin{array}{r} \begin{array}{r} 2x^2 - 2x - 3 \\ \hline x+3 \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{r} 2x^3 + 4x^2 - 9x - 9 \\ - 2x^3 - 6x^2 \\ \hline -2x^2 - 9x \end{array} \right) \\ \begin{array}{r} -2x^2 - 6x \\ \hline -3x - 9 \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{r} -3x - 9 \\ - 3x \\ \hline 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

So $2x^3 + 4x^2 - 9x - 9$
 $= (x+3)(2x^2 - 2x - 3)$

$$\begin{array}{r} \begin{array}{r} -4x^2 + x - 1 \\ \hline x-2 \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{r} -4x^3 + 9x^2 - 3x + 2 \\ - 4x^3 + 8x^2 \\ \hline x^2 - 3x \end{array} \right) \\ \begin{array}{r} x^2 - 2x \\ \hline -x + 2 \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{r} -x + 2 \\ - 2x \\ \hline 0 \end{array} \end{array}$$

So $-4x^3 + 9x^2 - 3x + 2$
 $= (x-2)(-4x^2 + x - 1)$

3 a

$$\begin{array}{r} x^3 + 3x^2 - 4x + 1 \\ \hline x+2 \end{array}$$

$$x^4 + 2x^3$$

$$3x^3 + 2x^2$$

$$3x^3 + 6x^2$$

$$-4x^2 - 7x$$

$$-4x^2 - 8x$$

$$x+2$$

$$x+2$$

$$0$$

$$\text{So } \frac{x^4 + 5x^3 + 2x^2 - 7x + 2}{x+2}$$

$$= x^3 + 3x^2 - 4x + 1$$

b

$$\begin{array}{r} 4x^3 + 2x^2 - 3x - 5 \\ \hline x+3 \end{array}$$

$$4x^4 + 12x^3$$

$$2x^3 + 3x^2$$

$$2x^3 + 6x^2$$

$$-3x^2 - 14x$$

$$-3x^2 - 9x$$

$$-5x - 15$$

$$-5x - 15$$

$$0$$

$$\text{So } \frac{4x^4 + 14x^3 + 3x^2 - 14x - 15}{x+3}$$

$$= 4x^3 + 2x^2 - 3x - 5$$

c

$$\begin{array}{r} -3x^3 + 3x^2 - 4x - 7 \\ \hline x-2 \end{array}$$

$$-3x^4 + 6x^3$$

$$3x^3 - 10x^2$$

$$3x^3 - 6x^2$$

$$-4x^2 + x$$

$$-4x^2 + 8x$$

$$-7x + 14$$

$$-7x + 14$$

$$0$$

c So

$$\frac{-3x^4 + 9x^3 - 10x^2 + x + 14}{x-2}$$

$$= -3x^3 + 3x^2 - 4x - 7$$

d

$$\begin{array}{r} -5x^4 + 2x^3 + 4x^2 - 3x + 7 \\ \hline x-1 \end{array}$$

$$-5x^5 + 5x^4$$

$$2x^4 + 2x^3$$

$$2x^4 - 2x^3$$

$$4x^3 - 7x^2$$

$$4x^3 - 4x^2$$

$$-3x^2 + 10x$$

$$-3x^2 + 3x$$

$$7x - 7$$

$$7x - 7$$

$$0$$

So

$$\frac{-5x^5 + 7x^4 + 2x^3 - 7x^2 + 10x - 7}{x-1}$$

$$= -5x^4 + 2x^3 + 4x^2 - 3x + 7$$

4 a

$$\begin{array}{r} x^3 + 2x^2 - 5x + 4 \\ \hline 3x+2 \end{array}$$

$$3x^4 + 2x^3$$

$$6x^3 - 11x^2$$

$$6x^3 + 4x^2$$

$$-15x^2 + 2x$$

$$-15x^2 - 10x$$

$$12x + 8$$

$$12x + 8$$

$$0$$

So

$$\frac{3x^4 + 8x^3 - 11x^2 + 2x + 8}{3x+2}$$

$$= x^3 + 2x^2 - 5x + 4$$

$$\begin{array}{r} x^3 - x^2 + 3x - 1 \\ \text{d} \quad \overline{4x+1} \quad 4x^4 - 3x^3 + 11x^2 - x - 1 \\ \underline{4x^4 + x^3} \\ -4x^3 + 11x^2 \\ \underline{-4x^3 - x^2} \\ 12x^2 - x \\ \underline{12x^2 + 3x} \\ -4x - 1 \\ \underline{-4x - 1} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{4x^4 - 3x^3 + 11x^2 - x - 1}{4x+1}$$

$$= x^3 - x^2 + 3x - 1$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x^3 + 5x + 2 \\ \text{c} \quad \overline{2x-3} \quad 4x^4 - 6x^3 + 10x^2 - 11x - 6 \\ \underline{4x^4 - 6x^3} \\ 0 + 10x^2 - 11x \\ \underline{10x^2 - 15x} \\ 4x - 6 \\ \underline{4x - 6} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{4x^4 - 6x^3 + 10x^2 - 11x - 6}{2x-3}$$

$$= 2x^3 + 5x + 2$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3x^4 + 2x^3 - 5x^2 + 3x + 6 \\ \text{d} \quad \overline{2x+3} \quad 6x^5 + 13x^4 - 4x^3 - 9x^2 + 21x + 18 \\ \underline{6x^5 + 9x^4} \\ 4x^4 - 4x^3 \\ \underline{4x^4 + 6x^3} \\ -10x^3 - 9x^2 \\ \underline{10x^3 - 15x^2} \\ 6x^2 + 21x \\ \underline{6x^2 + 9x} \\ 12x + 18 \\ \underline{12x + 18} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6x^5 + 13x^4 - 4x^3 - 9x^2 + 21x + 18 \\ \text{d} \quad \text{So } \frac{6x^5 + 13x^4 - 4x^3 - 9x^2 + 21x + 18}{2x+3} \\ = 3x^4 + 2x^3 - 5x^2 + 3x + 6 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x^4 - 2x^3 + 3x^2 + 4x - 7 \\ \text{e} \quad \overline{3x-1} \quad 6x^5 - 8x^4 + 11x^3 + 9x^2 - 25x + 7 \\ \underline{6x^5 - 2x^4} \\ -6x^4 + 11x^3 \\ \underline{-6x^4 + 2x^3} \\ 9x^3 + 9x^2 \\ \underline{9x^3 - 3x^2} \\ 12x^2 - 25x \\ \underline{12x^2 - 4x} \\ -21x + 7 \\ \underline{-21x + 7} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6x^5 - 8x^4 + 11x^3 + 9x^2 - 25x + 7 \\ \text{So } \frac{6x^5 - 8x^4 + 11x^3 + 9x^2 - 25x + 7}{3x-1} \\ = 2x^4 - 2x^3 + 3x^2 + 4x - 7 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 4x^4 - 3x^3 - 2x^2 + 6x - 5 \\ \text{f} \quad \overline{2x-5} \quad 8x^5 - 26x^4 + 11x^3 + 22x^2 - 40x + 25 \\ \underline{8x^5 - 20x^4} \\ -6x^4 + 11x^3 \\ \underline{-6x^4 + 15x^3} \\ -4x^3 + 22x^2 \\ \underline{-4x^3 + 10x^2} \\ 12x^2 - 40x \\ \underline{12x^2 - 30x} \\ -10x + 25 \\ \underline{-10x + 25} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8x^5 - 26x^4 + 11x^3 + 22x^2 - 40x + 25 \\ \text{So } \frac{8x^5 - 26x^4 + 11x^3 + 22x^2 - 40x + 25}{2x-5} \\ = 4x^4 - 3x^3 - 2x^2 + 6x - 5 \end{array}$$

$$4 \text{ g} \quad \begin{array}{r} 5x^3 + 12x^2 - 6x - 2 \\ 5x+3 \overline{)25x^4 + 75x^3 + 6x^2 - 28x - 6} \\ \underline{25x^4 + 15x^3} \\ 60x^3 + 6x^2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 60x^3 + 36x^2 \\ -30x^2 - 28x \\ \underline{-30x^2 - 18x} \\ -10x - 6 \\ \underline{-10x - 6} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{25x^4 + 75x^3 + 6x^2 - 28x - 6}{5x+3}$$

$$= 5x^3 + 12x^2 - 6x - 2$$

$$h \quad \begin{array}{r} 3x^4 + 5x^3 + 6 \\ 7x-2 \overline{)21x^5 + 29x^4 - 10x^3 + 42x - 12} \\ \underline{21x^5 - 6x^4} \\ 35x^4 - 10x^3 \\ \underline{35x^4 - 10x^3} \\ 0 + 42x - 12 \\ \underline{42x - 12} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{21x^5 + 29x^4 - 10x^3 + 42x - 12}{7x-2}$$

$$= 3x^4 + 5x^3 + 6$$

$$5 \text{ a} \quad \begin{array}{r} x^2 - 2x + 5 \\ x+2 \overline{x^3 + 0x^2 + x + 10} \\ \underline{x^3 + 2x^2} \\ -2x^2 + x \\ \underline{-2x^2 - 4x} \\ 5x + 10 \\ \underline{5x + 10} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{x^3 + x + 10}{x+2} = x^2 - 2x + 5$$

$$5 \text{ b} \quad \begin{array}{r} 2x^2 - 6x + 1 \\ x+3 \overline{)2x^3 + 0x^2 - 17x + 3} \\ \underline{2x^3 + 6x^2} \\ -6x^2 - 17x \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -6x^2 - 18x \\ x+3 \\ \underline{x+3} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{2x^3 - 17x + 3}{x+3} = 2x^2 - 6x + 1$$

$$c \quad \begin{array}{r} -3x^2 - 12x + 2 \\ x-4 \overline{-3x^3 + 0x^2 + 50x - 8} \\ \underline{-3x^3 + 12x^2} \\ -12x^2 + 50x \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -12x^2 + 48x \\ 2x-8 \\ \underline{2x-8} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{-3x^3 + 50x - 8}{x-4} = -3x^2 - 12x + 2$$

$$6 \text{ a} \quad \begin{array}{r} x^2 + 4x + 12 \\ x-3 \overline{x^3 + x^2 + 0x - 36} \\ \underline{x^3 - 3x^2} \\ 4x^2 + 0x \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 4x^2 - 12x \\ 12x - 36 \\ \underline{12x - 36} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{x^3 + x^2 - 36}{x-3} = x^2 + 4x + 12$$

$$6 \text{ b} \quad x+5 \overline{)2x^3 + 9x^2 + 0x + 25}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x^3 + 10x^2 \\ -x^2 + 0x \\ \hline -x^2 - 5x \\ 5x + 25 \\ \hline 5x + 25 \\ 0 \end{array}$$

So $\frac{2x^3 + 9x^2 + 25}{x+5} = 2x^2 - x + 5$

$$8 \text{ b} \quad x-6 \overline{)3x^3 - 20x^2 + 10x + 5}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3x^3 - 18x^2 \\ -2x^2 + 10x \\ \hline -2x^2 + 12x \\ -2x + 5 \\ \hline -2x + 12 \\ -7 \end{array}$$

So the remainder is -7 .

$$c \quad x-2 \overline{) -3x^3 + 11x^2 + 0x - 20}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -3x^2 + 5x + 10 \\ -3x^3 + 6x^2 \\ \hline 5x^2 + 0x \\ 5x^2 - 10x \\ \hline 10x - 20 \\ 10x - 20 \\ 0 \end{array}$$

So $\frac{-3x^3 + 11x^2 - 20}{x-2} = -3x^2 + 5x + 10$

$$7 \quad \text{RHS} = (x+2)(x^2 - 5)$$

$$= x^3 + 2x^2 - 5x - 10$$

$$= \text{LHS}$$

$$8 \text{ a} \quad x+5 \overline{)x^3 + 4x^2 - 3x + 2}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 - x + 2 \\ x^3 + 5x^2 \\ \hline -x^2 - 3x \\ -x^2 - 5x \\ \hline 2x + 2 \\ 2x + 10 \\ -8 \end{array}$$

So the remainder is -8 .

$$c \quad x-4 \overline{) -2x^3 + 3x^2 + 12x + 20}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -2x^2 - 5x - 8 \\ -2x^3 + 8x^2 \\ \hline -5x^2 + 12x \\ -5x^2 + 20x \\ \hline -8x + 20 \\ -8x + 32 \\ -12 \end{array}$$

So the remainder is -12 .

$$9 \quad x-1 \overline{)3x^3 - 2x^2 + 0x + 4}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3x^2 + x + 1 \\ 3x^3 - 3x^2 \\ \hline x^2 + 0x \\ x^2 - x \\ \hline x + 4 \\ x - 1 \\ 5 \end{array}$$

So the remainder is 5 .

$$10 \quad x+1 \overline{)3x^4 - 8x^3 + 10x^2 - 3x - 25}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3x^3 - 11x^2 + 21x - 24 \\ 3x^4 + 3x^3 \\ \hline -11x^3 + 10x^2 \\ -11x^3 - 11x^2 \\ \hline 21x^2 - 3x \\ 21x^2 + 21x \\ \hline -24x - 25 \\ -24x - 24 \\ -1 \end{array}$$

10 So the remainder is -1 .

$$\begin{array}{r} 5x^2 - 20x + 7 \\ \hline x+4 \overline{) 5x^3 + 0x^2 - 73x + 28} \\ \underline{5x^3 + 20x^2} \\ -20x^2 - 73x \\ \underline{-20x^2 - 80x} \\ 7x + 28 \\ \underline{7x + 28} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

The remainder is 0 , so $(x + 4)$ is a factor of $5x^3 - 73x + 28$.

$$\begin{array}{r} 3x^2 + 6x + 4 \\ \hline x-2 \overline{) 3x^3 + 0x^2 - 8x - 8} \\ \underline{3x^3 - 6x^2} \\ 6x^2 - 8x \\ \underline{6x^2 - 12x} \\ 4x - 8 \\ \underline{4x - 8} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{3x^3 - 8x - 8}{x-2} = 3x^2 + 6x + 4$$

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 + x + 1 \\ \hline x-1 \overline{) x^3 + 0x^2 + 0x - 1} \\ \underline{x^3 - x^2} \\ x^2 + 0x \\ \underline{x^2 - x} \\ x - 1 \\ \underline{x - 1} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{x^3 - 1}{x-1} = x^2 + x + 1$$

$$\begin{array}{r} x^3 - 2x^2 + 4x - 8 \\ \hline x+2 \overline{) x^4 + 0x^3 + 0x^2 + 0x - 16} \\ \underline{x^4 + 2x^3} \\ -2x^3 + 0x^2 \\ \underline{-2x^3 - 4x^2} \\ 4x^2 + 0x \\ \underline{4x^2 + 8x} \\ -8x - 16 \\ \underline{-8x - 16} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{x^4 - 16}{x+2} = x^3 - 2x^2 + 4x - 8$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 + 7x - 6 \\ \hline 5x+4 \overline{) 10x^3 + 43x^2 - 2x - 10} \\ \underline{10x^3 + 8x^2} \\ 35x^2 - 2x \\ \underline{35x^2 + 28x} \\ -30x - 10 \\ \underline{-30x - 24} \\ 14 \end{array}$$

So the remainder is 14 .

$$\begin{array}{r} 3x^2 - 5x - 62 \\ \hline x-3 \overline{) 3x^3 - 14x^2 - 47x - 14} \\ \underline{3x^3 - 9x^2} \\ -5x^2 - 47x \\ \underline{-5x^2 + 15x} \\ -62x - 14 \\ \underline{-62x + 186} \\ -200 \end{array}$$

So the remainder is -200 .

$$\begin{array}{r} 3x^2 - 20x - 7 \\ \hline x+2 \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{r} 3x^3 - 14x^2 - 47x - 14 \\ 3x^3 + 6x^2 \\ \hline -20x^2 - 47x \\ -20x^2 - 40x \\ \hline -7x - 14 \\ -7x - 14 \\ \hline 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= 3x^3 - 14x^2 - 47x - 14 \\ &= (x+2)(3x^2 - 20x - 7) \\ &= (x+2)(3x+1)(x-7) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 + 2x - 3 \\ \hline 2x-1 \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{r} 2x^3 + 3x^2 - 8x + 3 \\ 2x^3 - x^2 \\ \hline 4x^2 - 8x \\ 4x^2 - 2x \\ \hline -6x + 3 \\ -6x + 3 \\ \hline 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= 2x^3 + 3x^2 - 8x + 3 \\ &= (2x-1)(x^2 + 2x - 3) \\ a &= 1, b = 2, c = -3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 + 8x + 21 \\ \hline x-2 \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{r} x^3 + 6x^2 + 5x - 12 \\ x^3 - 2x^2 \\ \hline 8x^2 + 5x \\ 8x^2 - 16x \\ \hline 21x - 12 \\ 21x - 42 \\ \hline 30 \end{array} \right)$$

So the remainder is 30.

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 + 3x - 4 \\ \hline x+3 \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{r} x^3 + 6x^2 + 5x - 12 \\ x^3 + 3x^2 \\ \hline 3x^2 + 5x \\ 3x^2 + 9x \\ \hline -4x - 12 \\ -4x - 12 \\ \hline 0 \end{array} \right)$$

So the remainder is 0.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{b} \quad f(x) &= x^3 + 6x^2 + 5x - 12 \\ &= (x+3)(x^2 + 3x - 4) \\ &= (x+3)(x+4)(x-1) \\ \text{So } x &= -3, x = -4 \text{ or } x = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{b} \quad f(x) &= 2x^3 + 3x^2 - 8x + 3 \\ &= (2x-1)(x^2 + 2x - 3) \\ &= (2x-1)(x-1)(x+3) \\ \mathbf{c} \quad (2x-1)(x-1)(x+3) &= 0 \\ x &= \frac{1}{2}, x = 1 \text{ and } x = -3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3x^2 + 2x + 1 \\ \hline 4x-1 \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{r} 12x^3 + 5x^2 + 2x - 1 \\ 12x^3 - 3x^2 \\ \hline 8x^2 + 2x \\ 8x^2 - 2x \\ \hline 4x - 1 \\ 4x - 1 \\ \hline 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= (4x-1)(3x^2 + 2x + 1) \\ a &= 3, b = 2, c = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{b} \quad (4x-1)(3x^2 + 2x + 1) &= 0 \\ \text{Using the discriminant for } 3x^2 + 2x + 1: \\ b^2 - 4ac &= 2^2 - 4(3)(1) = -8 < 0 \text{ so there} \\ &\text{are no real solutions.} \\ \text{So } f(x) \text{ has only one real solution, } x &= \frac{1}{4}. \end{aligned}$$