Daily Question – Pure Mathematics - Day 9

Topic: Binomial Expansion

(a) Find the first 4 terms, in ascending powers of x, of the binomial expansion of

$$\left(\frac{1}{4} - 5x\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \qquad |x| < \frac{1}{20}$$

giving each coefficient in its simplest form.

(5)

By substituting $x = \frac{1}{100}$ into the answer for (a),

(b) find an approximation for $\sqrt{5}$

Give your answer in the form $\frac{a}{b}$ where a and b are integers to be found.

(2)

(Total for question = 7 marks)