

17. (a) The expression $x^2 + 8x + 5$ can be written in the form $(x + a)^2 + b$, where a and b are whole numbers.
Find the values of a and b . [3]

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- (b) **Hence**, solve $x^2 + 8x + 5 = 0$ leaving your answer in surd form. [4]

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END OF PAPER