QUESTION 2

Leonard took four mathematics tests. The average score of the four tests was 86. His lowest score was 17 marks lower than his highest score. His lowest score was no less than 75.

Which of the following cannot be his scores for the other two tests?

1) 85, 90 2) 83, 92 3) 84, 89 4) 88, 91



CONSIDER OPTION 1:

Total score of the other 2 tests = 85 + 90 = 175 So. total score of the

highest and lowest tests = 344 – 175 = 169

Therefore the lowest score = (169 - 17) / 2 =76 (which is greater than 75) Thus, the total scores in Option 1 are possible.

NEXT, CONSIDER OPTION 2:

Total score of the other 2 tests = 83 + 92 = 175This is the same as that for Option 1. Thus the test scores in Option 2 are possible.

LET'S CONSIDER OPTION 3:

Total score of the other 2 tests = 84 + 89 = 173So, the total score of the highest and lowest tests = 344 - 173 = 171

Therefore the lowest score = (171 - 17) / 2 = 77 (which is greater than 75)

Thus, the test scores in Option 3 are also possible.

By elimination, the test scores in Option 4 cannot be his scores for the other two tests.

Source: MARSHALL CAVENDISH EDUCATION STRAITS TIMES GRAPHICS