3. (a) Write down and simplify the general term in the binomial expansion of
\[ (2x + \frac{5}{x^2})^9. \]

(b) Hence, or otherwise, find the term independent of \(x\).

Answers

(a) \(\binom{9}{r} \cdot 2^{9-r} \cdot 5^r \cdot x^{9-3r} \)

(b) 672000