

Section 10.3 Worksheet (Geometric Sequences)

Write the first five terms of each geometric sequence.

1) $a_1 = 24, r = \frac{1}{3}$
 $24, 8, \frac{8}{3}, \frac{8}{9}, \frac{8}{27}$

2) $a_n = -3a_{n-1}, a_1 = -2$
 $-2, 6, -12, 24, -48$

Use the formula for the general term of a geometric sequence to find the indicated term of each sequence with the given first term, a_1 , and common ratio, r .

3) Find a_{12} , when $a_1 = 4, r = -2$.
 $a_{12} = 4(-2)^{12-1}$
 $a_{12} = 4(-2048)$
 $a_{12} = -8192$

4) Find a_{30} , when $a_1 = -8000, r = \frac{1}{2}$.
 $a_{30} = -8000\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{30-1}$
 $a_{30} = \frac{-8000}{536870912}$
 $a_{30} = \frac{-125}{8,388,608}$

Write a formula for the general term (the n th term) of each geometric sequence. Then use the formula for a_n to find a_9 , the 9th term of the sequence.

5) $5, -1, \frac{1}{5}, -\frac{1}{25}, \dots$
 $a_n = 5\left(-\frac{1}{5}\right)^{n-1}$
 $a_9 = 5\left(-\frac{1}{5}\right)^{9-1}$
 $a_9 = \frac{1}{78,125}$

6) $0.07, 0.007, 0.0007, 0.00007, \dots$
 $a_n = 0.07(0.1)^{n-1}$
 $a_9 = 0.07(0.1)^{9-1}$
 $a_9 = 0.07(0.00000001)$
 $a_9 = 0.0000000007$

Find the sum of the finite geometric series.

7) Find the sum of the first 12 terms of the geometric sequence:
 $-3, 6, -12, 24, \dots$
 $S_{12} = \frac{-3(1-(-2)^{12})}{1-(-2)}$
 $S_{12} = \frac{-3(1-4096)}{3}$
 $S_{12} = -1(-4095) = 4095$

Find the sum of the first 11 terms of the geometric sequence:

8) $\frac{1}{24}, \frac{1}{12}, -\frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots$
 $S_{11} = \frac{-\frac{1}{24}(1-(-2)^{11})}{1-(-2)}$
 $S_{11} = \frac{-\frac{1}{24}(1+2048)}{3}$
 $S_{11} = -\frac{683}{24}$

Find the sum of the finite geometric series.

9) $\sum_{i=1}^6 4^i$ $S_6 = \frac{4(1-4^6)}{1-4}$
 $a_1 = 4$ $S_6 = 4\left(\frac{-4095}{-3}\right)$
 $r = 4$
 $n = 6$ $S_6 = 4(1365)$
 $S_6 = 5460$

10) $\sum_{i=1}^6 \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{i+1}$ $S_6 = \frac{1}{9} \left(\frac{1-\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^6}{1-\frac{1}{3}}\right)$
 $a_1 = \frac{1}{9}$ $S_6 = \frac{1}{9} \left(\frac{\frac{728}{27}}{\frac{2}{3}}\right)$
 $r = \frac{1}{3}$ $S_6 = \frac{1}{9} \left(\frac{364}{729}\right) \cdot \frac{3}{2}$
 $n = 6$
 $S_6 = \frac{364}{2187}$

Find the sum of the infinite geometric series.

11) $1 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{64} + \dots$ $a_1 = 1$ $r = \frac{1}{4}$
 $S_\infty = \frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{4}} = \frac{4}{3}$
 $S_\infty = \frac{1}{3/4} = \frac{4}{3}$

12) $3 - 1 + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{9} + \dots$ $a_1 = 3$ $r = -\frac{1}{3}$
 $S_\infty = \frac{3}{1+\frac{1}{3}} = \frac{9}{4}$
 $S_\infty = \frac{3}{4/3} = \frac{9}{4}$

Are the following sequences arithmetic, geometric, or neither? State the sum or difference.

13) $-\frac{1}{3}, -\frac{1}{5}, -\frac{1}{7}, -\frac{1}{9}, \dots$
 neither

14) $-\frac{2}{3}, -\frac{5}{3}, -\frac{8}{3}, -\frac{11}{3}, \dots$ $-\frac{5}{3} + \frac{2}{3} = -1$
 arithmetic $d = -1$

Write a formula for the general term (the nth term) of each arithmetic sequence.

15) $a_7 = -12$, $a_{12} = 38$
 $(7, -12)$ $(12, 38)$
 $d = \frac{38+12}{12-7} = \frac{50}{5} = 10$ $a_n = -72 + (n-1)10$
 $a_n = -72 + 10n - 10$
 $-12 = a_1 + (7-1)(10)$
 $-12 = a_1 + 60$
 $a_1 = -72$
 $a_n = 10n - 82$

16) $a_{20} = 38$, $a_{23} = -10$
 $(20, 38)$ $(23, -10)$
 $d = \frac{-10-38}{23-20} = \frac{-48}{3} = -16$ $a_n = 342 + (n-1)(-16)$
 $38 = a_1 + (20-1)(-16)$ $a_n = 342 + 16 - 16n$
 $38 = a_1 - 304$
 $a_1 = 342$
 $a_n = -16n + 358$

Find the sum.

17) $\sum_{k=1}^{10} (-3+2k)$ Arithmetic
 $a_1 = -1$ $a_{10} = 17$ $n = 10$
 $S_{10} = \frac{10}{2}(-1+17)$
 $S_{10} = 5(16) = 80$

18) $\sum_{i=1}^{10} \frac{1}{3}(-2)^i$ Geometric
 $a_1 = -\frac{2}{3}$ $r = -2$ $n = 10$
 $S_{10} = -\frac{2}{3} \left(\frac{1-(-2)^{10}}{1-(-2)}\right)$
 $S_{10} = -\frac{2}{3} \left(\frac{-1023}{3}\right) = \frac{682}{3}$

19) $\sum_{i=1}^4 \frac{(i-4)}{i!}$ neither
 $a_1 = -3$ $a_2 = -1$ $a_3 = -\frac{1}{6}$ $a_4 = 0$
 $-3 + -1 + -\frac{1}{6} = -4\frac{1}{6}$

20) $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2}(-3)^j$ Infinite Geometric
 $a_1 = -\frac{3}{2}$ $r = -3$
 No sum because $|r| > 1$