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CC ALGEBRA 2

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LESSON #1: WHAT IS A SEQUENCE?

Do Now: Find the pattern and fill in the missing numbers.

a) 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13

b) 4, 12, 36, 108, 324, 972

A sequence is an ordered set of numbers. Each number in the sequence is called a \_\_\_\_\_.

The terms of a sequence are referred to in subscripted form:

Ex. 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, ...  
 $a_1$   $a_2$   $a_3$   $a_4$   $a_5$   $a_6$       "a sub n"

↓  
1st term

Sequences can sometimes be expressed as an **Explicit Formula**: (n represents the term's position in the sequence)

1)  $a_n = 12n$

Write out the first 5 terms of the sequence.

$a_1 = 12(1) = 12$      $a_2 = 12(2) = 24$      $a_3 = 12(3) = 36$      $a_4 = 12(4) = 48$      $a_5 = 12(5) = 60$

{ 12, 24, 36, 48, 60 }

2) Find the 5<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> terms of the sequence whose  $n^{\text{th}}$  term is given by the explicit formula

$b_n = \frac{n}{n+1}$

$b_5 = \frac{5}{5+1} = \frac{5}{6}$      $b_{10} = \frac{10}{10+1} = \frac{10}{11}$

3) Write an explicit formula for the  $n^{\text{th}}$  term of a sequence of negative even integers starting with -2

-2, -4, -6, -8, -10, ... -2n  
↓   ↓   ↓   ↓   ↓   ↓  
 $a_1$   $a_2$   $a_3$   $a_4$   $a_5$   $a_n$

$a_n = -2n$

## Special Types of Sequences

4) Identify a pattern in the sequence and then find the missing terms:

3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27

Rule:  $a_n = 3n$

5) Identify a pattern in the sequence and then find the missing terms:

48, 42, 36, 30, 24, 18, 12

$$a_n = a_1 + d(n-1)$$

$$48 + (-6)(n-1)$$

\* Rule:  $a_n = 54 - 6n$

In an Arithmetic sequence, the amount by which the terms change each time

is called the **common** Difference.

The **common difference** is represented by d.  $d = a_2 - a_1$

In an arithmetic sequence, you are adding/subtracting to find the next term!

### EXPLICIT FORMULA FOR ARITHMETIC SEQUENCES:

$$a_n = a_1 + d(n-1)$$

6) Identify a pattern in the sequence and then find the missing terms:

3, 6, 12, 24, 48, 96, 192

Rule:  $a_n = 3(2)^{n-1}$

7) Identify a pattern in the sequence and then find the missing terms:

81, 27, 9, 3, 1,  $\frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\frac{1}{9}$

Rule:  $a_n = 81\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n-1}$

In a Geometric sequence, the amount by which the terms change each time

is called the **common** ratio.

The common ratio is represented by r.  $r = a_2 \div a_1$

In a geometric sequence, you are multiplying to find the next term!

### EXPLICIT FORMULA FOR GEOMETRIC SEQUENCES:

$$a_n = a_1(r)^{n-1}$$

8) Consider a sequence that follows 1, 3, 9...

a) What is the first term?

1

b) What is the common ratio?

$r = 3$

c) What are the next four terms?

27, 81, 243, 729

9) Consider a sequence that follows 160, 80, 40, ..

a) What is the first term? 160

b) What is the common ratio?  $r = \frac{1}{2}$

c) What are the next four terms?

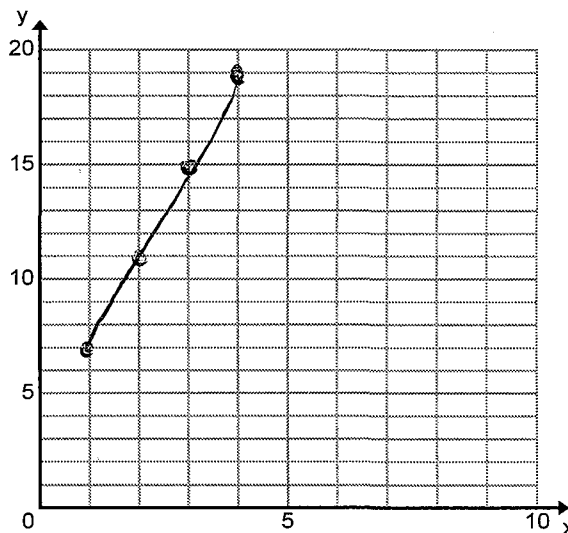
20, 10, 5, 2.5

10. Consider a sequence that follows 3, 7, 11, 15, ...

a. Complete the table and graph the sequence.

b. Find the equation of the graph.

Term Number "n"	Term
$a_1$	3
$a_2$	7
$a_3$	11
$a_4$	15
$a_5$	19



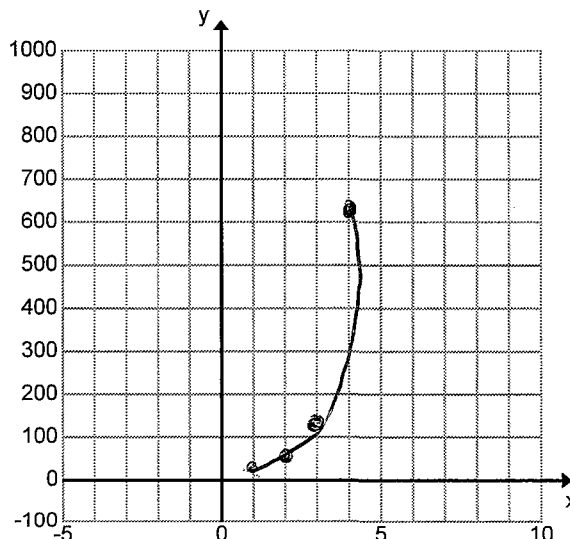
\* Arithmetic Sequences follow a linear pattern!

11. Consider a sequence that follows 1, 5, 25, 125, ...

a. Complete the table and graph the sequence.

b. Find the equation of the graph.

Term Number "n"	Term
$a_1$	1
$a_2$	5
$a_3$	25
$a_4$	125
$a_5$	625



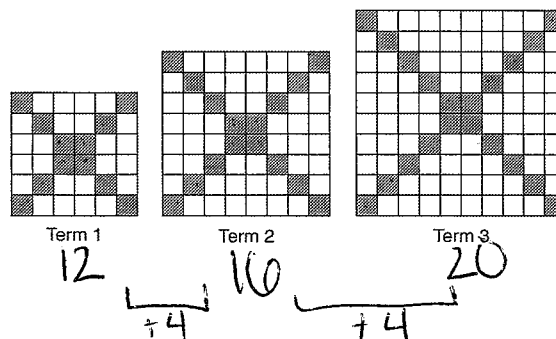
\* Geometric Sequences follow an exponential pattern!

12. Determine whether each sequence is an arithmetic sequence, geometric sequence, or neither. If the sequence is arithmetic or geometric, state the common difference or common ratio.

Sequence	<u>A</u> rithmetic, <u>G</u> eometric, or <u>N</u> either (Write A,G, or N)	Common difference (D) or Common ratio (R) & State Value
A. 1, -4, 16, -64, ...	G	$r = -4$
B. 108, 66, 141, 99, ....	N	NO PATTERN
C. -96, -48, -24, -12, ...	G	$r = \frac{1}{2}$
D. 7, 13, 19, 25, ...	A	$d = 6$
E. 3, 9, 81, 6561, ...	N	NO COMMON PATTERN

**REGENTS PRACTICE!**

1 The diagrams below represent the first three terms of a sequence.



$$a_1 = 12$$

$$d = 4$$

$$a_n = 12 + 4(n-1)$$

$$12 + 4n - 4$$

$$4n + 8$$

Assuming the pattern continues, which formula determines  $a_n$ , the number of shaded squares in the  $n$ th term?

1)  $a_n = 4n + 12$

3)  $a_n = 4n + 4$

2)  $a_n = 4n + 8$

4)  $a_n = 4n + 2$

2 Which function defines the sequence  $-6, -10, -14, -18, \dots$ , where  $f(6) = -26$ ?  $a_1 = -6$

- 1)  $f(x) = -4x - 2$   
 $f(x) = 4x - 2$

- 3)  $f(x) = -x + 32$   
 4)  $f(x) = x - 26$

$d = -4$   
 $a_n = -6 + -4(n-1)$   
 $-6 - 4n + 4$   
 $-4n - 2$

3 A theater has 35 seats in the first row. Each row has four more seats than the row before it. Which expression represents the number of seats in the  $n$ th row?  $d$

- 1)  $35 + (n + 4)$       3)  $35 + (n + 1)(4)$   
 2)  $35 + (4n)$       4)  $35 + (n - 1)(4)$

$a_n = 35 + 4(n-1)$   
 $35 + 4n - 4$

4 What is the  $n$ th term of the sequence  $-1, 3, 7, 11, \dots$ ?  $a_1 = -1$   
 $d = 4$

- 1)  $a_n = -1 - 4(n-1)$   
 2)  $a_n = -1 + 4(n-1)$   
 3)  $a_n = 4 - (n-1)$   
 4)  $a_n = 4 + (n-1)$

$a_n = -1 + 4(n-1)$   
 $-1 + 4n - 4$   
 $4n - 5$

5 Given  $f(9) = -2$ , which function can be used to generate the sequence  $-8, -7.25, -6.5, -5.75, \dots$ ?  $a_1 = -8$   
 $d = .75$

- 1)  $f(n) = -8 + 0.75n$   
 2)  $f(n) = -8 - 0.75(n-1)$   
 3)  $f(n) = -8.75 + 0.75n$   
 4)  $f(n) = -0.75 + 8(n-1)$

$-8 + .75(n-1)$   
 $-8 + .75n - .75$   
 $-8.75 + .75n$

6 The third term in an arithmetic sequence is 10 and the fifth term is 26. If the first term is  $a_1$ , which is an equation for the  $n$ th term of this sequence?

- 1)  $a_n = 8n + 10$       3)  $a_n = 16n + 10$   
 2)  $a_n = 8n - 14$       4)  $a_n = 16n - 38$

$a_3 = 10$       use slope!  
 $a_5 = 26$   
 $\frac{26-10}{5-3} = \frac{16}{2} = 8 = d$

$-6 + 8(n-1)$   
 $-6 + 8n - 8$   
 $8n - 14$

$a_1$   
 $-6, 2, 10, 18, 26$

7 In an arithmetic sequence,  $a_4 = 19$  and  $a_7 = 31$ . Determine a formula for  $a_n$ , the  $n$ th term of this sequence.

$\frac{31-19}{7-4} = \frac{12}{3} = 4 = d$

$7, 11, 15, 19$   
 $a_1$

$a_n = 7 + 4(n-1)$   
 $7 + 4n - 4$   
 $4n + 3$

