

Geometric Sequences

Level 1 – 2

1. Which of the following are geometric sequences? Circle your choices.

a) 1, 3, 9, 27, ...

b) 2, 4, 6, 8, ...

c) 4, -4, 4, -4, ...

d) 1, 2, 6, 24, ...

e) 2, 2, 2, 2, ...

f) 80, 78, 75, 71, ...

g) 5, 8, 11, 14, ...

h) 32, 16, 8, 4, ...

i) 1, 0.1, 0.01, 0.001, ...

2. Write down the next three terms of the geometric sequences.

a) 10, 20, 40,

b) 120, -60, 30,

c) 4, 12, 36,

d) 3, 3, 3,

e) -4, -8, -16,

3. Calculate the first four terms of the following geometric sequences:

a) $t_n = 4 \times 2^{n-1}$

b) $t_n = 2t_{n-1}$ $t_1 = 3$

c) $t_n = 2000 \times 0.1^{n-1}$

d) $t_n = 3 \times (-4)^{n-1}$

e) $t_n = -t_{n-1}$ $t_1 = 4$

f) $t_n = t_{n-1} \div 2$ $t_1 = 64$

4. Write down one possible missing term in each of the following geometric sequences:

a) 2,, 8

b) 3,, 27

c) 1,, 16

d) -1,, -100

e) 100,, 1

f) 32,, 8

g) 1,, 25

h) 2,, 0.02

i) -3,, -48

Level 3 – 4

5. i) Determine an expression for the n^{th} term of the geometric sequences.

ii) Use the expression to determine the 9th term.

a) 5, 10, 20, ... i)

ii)

b) 1024, 512, 256, ... i)

ii)

c) 1, -2, 4, ... i)

ii)

d) 1000, 100, 10, ... i)

ii)

e) -4, 16, -64, ... i)

ii)

f) 2, 20, 200, ... i)

ii)

g) -3, 6, -12, ... i)

ii)

h) 5, -25, 125, ... i)

ii)

6. Write down the first five terms of any sequence that is both arithmetic and geometric. Explain why the sequence is both arithmetic and geometric.

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Level 5 – 6

7. On week 1 Paul saved \$10. In each subsequent week he saves 10% more than the previous week.

a) Determine an expression t_n for the amount he saves on the n^{th} week.

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b) Determine the first week when he saves at least \$30.

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8. Determine the value(s) of the missing term in the following geometric sequences. Show your working out.

a) $t_1 = 5, t_4 = 40, t_3 = ?$

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b) $t_5 = -1, t_8 = 27, t_7 = ?$

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c) $t_{12} = 100, t_{16} = 1 \times 10^{-2}, t_{10} = ?$

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d) $t_8 = 2, t_{13} = -64, t_5 = ?$

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9. Determine the value(s) of k in the following geometric sequences.

a) $2, 3k - 1, 32$

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b) $k, k + 1, k + 3$

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c) $k^2, k^2 + 2, k^2 + 8$

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Level 7 – 8

10. The 1st, 4th and 13th terms of an arithmetic sequence form the first three terms of a geometric sequence. If the first term of the arithmetic sequence is 3, find the common difference, d .

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11. The sum of the first two terms of a geometric sequence is 84. The sum of the first three terms is 196. Find the value(s) of a and r . You should get two different sets of answers.

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12. Consider S_n the sum of the first n terms of a geometric sequence:

$$S_n = a + ar + ar^2 + \dots + ar^{n-1}$$

a) Show that the value of S_n is equal to $\frac{a(1-r^n)}{1-r}$.

Hint: Multiply both sides by $(1-r)$ and expand and simplify the right side

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b) Use the formula you have just derived to evaluate the following:

i) $4000 + 2000 + 1000 + \dots + 62.5$

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ii) $1 + 3 + 9 + \dots + 6561$

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iii) $(-3) + 6 + (-12) + 1536$

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