

8.6

8.6 -> GEOMETRIC SEQUENCES

Geometric sequence:

Ex: 2, 10, 50, 250

*To find the common ratio, write each term over the term to its left and simplify.

1. Find the common ratio of each sequence:

a. -3, -6, -12, -24, ...

b. 3, -15, 75, -375, ...

c. 750, 150, 30, 6, ...

d. 3, $3/2$, $\frac{3}{4}$, $3/8$, ...

2. Find the next 3 terms of each sequence:

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

b. 120, -60, 30, -15, ...

c. 5, -10, 20, -40

3. Determine whether each sequence is arithmetic or geometric:

a. $2, 4, 6, 8, \dots$

b. $2, 4, 8, 16, \dots$

c. $162, 54, 18, 6, \dots$

d. $98, 101, 104, 107, \dots$

*You can use the _____ of a geometric sequence to write a _____:

Geometric Sequence

4. Finding Terms of a Sequence:

Find the first, sixth, and twelfth terms of each sequence

a. $A(n) = 4 \cdot 3^{n-1}$

b. $A(n) = -2 \cdot 5^{n-1}$

Find the first, fifth, and tenth terms of the sequence:

$$A(n) = -3(2)^{n-1}$$

1 EXAMPLE Find the common ratio of each sequence.

a. 3, -15, 75, -375, ...

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 3 & & -15 & & 75 & & -375 \\ \curvearrowright & & \curvearrowright & & \curvearrowright & & \\ \times(-5) & & \times(-5) & & \times(-5) & & \end{array}$$

The common ratio is -5.

b. 3, $\frac{3}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{3}{8}$, ...

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 3 & & \frac{3}{2} & & \frac{3}{4} & & \frac{3}{8} \\ \curvearrowright & & \curvearrowright & & \curvearrowright & & \\ \times\frac{1}{2} & & \times\frac{1}{2} & & \times\frac{1}{2} & & \end{array}$$

The common ratio is $\frac{1}{2}$.

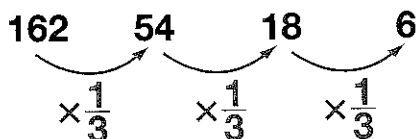
2 EXAMPLE Find the next three terms of the sequence 5, -10, 20, -40, ...

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 5 & & -10 & & 20 & & -40 \\ \curvearrowright & & \curvearrowright & & \curvearrowright & & \\ \times(-2) & & \times(-2) & & \times(-2) & & \end{array}$$

The common ratio is -2. The next three terms are $-40(-2) = 80$, $80(-2) = -160$, and $-160(-2) = 320$.

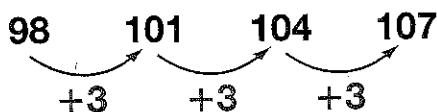
3 EXAMPLE Determine whether each sequence is arithmetic or geometric.

a. 162, 54, 18, 6, ...



The sequence has a common ratio. The sequence is geometric.

b. 98, 101, 104, 107, ...



The sequence has a common difference. The sequence is arithmetic.

4 EXAMPLE Find the first, fifth, and tenth terms of the sequence that has the rule $A(n) = -3(2)^{n-1}$.

$$\text{first term: } A(1) = -3(2)^{1-1} = -3(2)^0 = -3(1) = -3$$

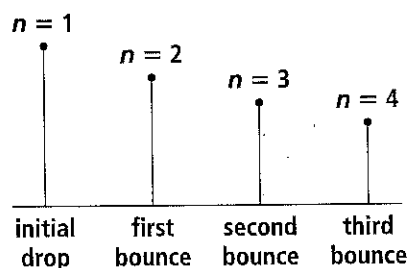
$$\text{fifth term: } A(5) = -3(2)^{5-1} = -3(2)^4 = -3(16) = -48$$

$$\text{tenth term: } A(10) = -3(2)^{10-1} = -3(2)^9 = -3(512) = -1536$$

5 EXAMPLE Suppose you drop a tennis ball from a height of 2 meters. On each bounce, the ball reaches a height that is 75% of its previous height. Write a rule for the height the ball reaches on each bounce. In centimeters, what height will the ball reach on its third bounce?

The first term is 2 meters, which is 200 cm.

Draw a diagram to help understand the problem.



The ball drops from an initial height, for which there is no bounce. The initial height is 200 cm, when $n = 1$. The third bounce is $n = 4$. The common ratio is 75%, or 0.75.

A rule for the sequence is $A(n) = 200 \cdot 0.75^{n-1}$.

$A(n) = 200 \cdot 0.75^{n-1}$ Use the sequence to find the height of the third bounce.

$A(4) = 200 \cdot 0.75^{4-1}$ Substitute 4 for n to find the height of the third bounce.

$= 200 \cdot 0.75^3$ Simplify exponents.

$= 200 \cdot 0.421875$ Evaluate powers.

$= 84.375$ Simplify.

The height of the third bounce is 84.375 cm.

Practice 8-6**Geometric Sequences**

Find the next three terms of each sequence.

1. 4, 12, 36, 108, ...
2. 2, -8, 32, -128, ...
3. $18, 9, \frac{9}{2}, \frac{9}{4}, \dots$
4. $1, -\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{9}, -\frac{1}{27}, \dots$
5. -2, 20, -200, 2000, ...
6. $30, -10, \frac{10}{3}, -\frac{10}{9}, \dots$
7. $\frac{1}{3}, 1\frac{1}{3}, 5\frac{1}{3}, 21\frac{1}{3}, \dots$
8. $20, 4, \frac{4}{5}, \frac{4}{25}, \dots$
9. -100, -40, -16, -6.4, ...
10. 40, 20, 10, 5, ...

Determine whether each sequence is arithmetic or geometric.

11. -8, -10, -12.5, -15.625, ...
12. 5, 1, -3, -7, ...
13. $1, \frac{2}{5}, \frac{4}{25}, \frac{8}{125}, \dots$
14. -0.2, -0.02, -0.002, -0.0002, ...
15. -10, -5, 0, 5, ...
16. $6, -3, \frac{3}{2}, -\frac{3}{4}, \dots$

Write a rule for each sequence.

17. 4, 12, 36, 108, ...
18. 2, -8, 32, -128, ...
19. $18, 9, \frac{9}{2}, \frac{9}{4}, \dots$
20. $1, -\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{9}, -\frac{1}{27}, \dots$
21. -2, 20, -200, 2000, ...
22. $30, -10, \frac{10}{3}, -\frac{10}{9}, \dots$
23. 1, 4, 16, 64, ...
24. 6, 12, 24, 48, ...
25. 125, 25, 5, 1, ...
26. 50, 25, 12.5, 6.25, ...

Find the first, fourth, and eighth terms of each sequence.

27. $A(n) = 2 \cdot 3^{n-1}$
28. $A(n) = 3 \cdot 4^{n-1}$
29. $A(n) = 3 \cdot 2^{n-1}$
30. $A(n) = -1 \cdot 5^{n-1}$
31. $A(n) = 4 \cdot 2^{n-1}$
32. $A(n) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2^{n-1}$
33. $A(n) = 0.1 \cdot 4^{n-1}$
34. $A(n) = -2.1 \cdot 3^{n-1}$
35. $A(n) = 10 \cdot 5^{n-1}$

Write a rule and find the given term in each geometric sequence described below.

36. What is the sixth term when the first term is 4 and the common ratio is 3?
37. What is the fifth term when the first term is -2 and the common ratio is $-\frac{1}{2}$?
38. What is the tenth term when the first term is 3 and the common ratio is -1.2?
39. What is the fourth term when the first term is 5 and the common ratio is 6?
40. Suppose a manufacturer invented a computer chip in 1978 that had a computational speed of s . The company improves its chips so that every 3 years, the chip doubles in speed. What would the chip's speed have been for the year 2002? Write your solution in terms of s .

Reteaching 8-6**Geometric Sequences****OBJECTIVE:** Finding the next terms of a geometric sequence**MATERIALS:** None

- Multiplying a term in the sequence by a fixed number to find the next term forms a geometric sequence.
- The fixed number is called the common ratio.

Example

Find the next three terms of the sequence 3, -9, 27, -81, ...

3, -9, 27, -81, ...

$$-\frac{9}{3} = -3$$

The common ratio is -3.

Note that each term in the given sequence is -3 times the previous term.

Let $A(n)$ = the value of the n th term in the sequence.

$$A(5) = -3 \cdot -81 = 243 \quad \leftarrow \text{the common ratio times the fourth term}$$

$$A(6) = -3 \cdot 243 = -729 \quad \leftarrow \text{the common ratio times the fifth term}$$

$$A(7) = -3 \cdot -729 = 2187 \quad \leftarrow \text{the common ratio times the sixth term}$$

The next three terms in the sequence are 243, -729, 2187.

Exercises

Find the next three terms in each of the following sequences.

1. 2, 8, 32, 128, ...

2. -3, 6, -12, 24, ...

3. 1, -1, 1, -1, ...

4. 12, 6, 3, $\frac{3}{2}$, ...

5. 20, -10, 5, $-\frac{5}{2}$, ...

6. 100, 10, 1, 0.1, ...

7. 3, 15, 75, 375, ...

8. -8, -12, -18, -27, ...

9. 1.5, 4.5, 13.5, 40.5, ...

10. 8, $-\frac{8}{3}$, $\frac{8}{9}$, $-\frac{8}{27}$, ...

11. 7, -14, 28, -56, ...

12. 100, 50, 25, 12.5, ...

13. 8, 32, 128, 512, ...

14. 76, -38, 19, -9.5, ...