

Reteaching 11-1

Sequences

A *sequence* is a set of numbers that follows a pattern.

In an *arithmetic sequence*, each term is found by *adding* a fixed number to the previous term. The number that you add is called the *common difference*.

Example 1: Find the next three terms in the arithmetic sequence: 8, 5, 2, -1, -4, . . .

- The common difference is $5 - 8 = -3$.
- Add -3 for the next three terms.

$$\begin{aligned} -4 + (-3) &= -7 \\ -7 + (-3) &= -10 \\ -10 + (-3) &= -13 \end{aligned}$$

The next three terms are $-7, -10,$ and -13 .

In a *geometric sequence*, each term is found by *multiplying* the previous term by a fixed number. The number that you multiply by is called the *common ratio*.

Example 2: Find the next three terms in the geometric sequence: 2, 6, 18, 54, . . .

- The common ratio is $\frac{18}{6} = 3$.
- Multiply by 3 for the next three terms.

$$\begin{aligned} 54 \times 3 &= 162 \\ 162 \times 3 &= 486 \\ 486 \times 3 &= 1,458 \end{aligned}$$

The next three terms are 162, 468, and 1,458.

The sequence: 1, 4, 9, 16, . . . is neither arithmetic nor geometric.

Its pattern is $1^2, 2^2, 3^2, 4^2, . . .$

Its next three terms are $5^2, 6^2, 7^2,$ or 25, 36, 49.

Find the common difference or ratio in each sequence.

1. 2, 6, 10, 14, . . .

2. 30, 20, 10, 0, . . .

3. -12, -4, 4, 12, . . .

4. 6, 12, 24, 48, . . .

5. $1, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{9}, \frac{1}{27}, . . .$

6. 250, 25, 2.5, 0.25, . . .

Identify each sequence as *arithmetic*, *geometric*, or *neither*. Find the next three terms of the sequence.

7. 4, 2, 1, $\frac{1}{2}, . . .$

8. 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, . . .

9. $1, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{9}, \frac{1}{16}, . . .$

10. 70, 50, 30, 10, . . .

11. 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, . . .

12. 4, 8, 16, 32, . . .

Practice 11-1

Write the rule for each sequence and find the next three terms.

1. 3, 8, 13, 18, _____, _____, _____

2. 7, 14, 28, 56, _____, _____, _____

3. 32, 8, 2, $\frac{1}{2}$, _____, _____, _____

4. 14, 11, 8, 5, _____, _____, _____

5. 35, 23, 11, -1, _____, _____, _____

6. 3000, 300, 30, 3, _____, _____, _____

Find the next three terms in each sequence. Identify each as *arithmetic*, *geometric*, or *neither*. For each arithmetic or geometric sequence, find the common difference or ratio.

7. 7.1, 7.5, 7.9, 8.3, _____, _____, _____

8. 5, 6, 8, 11, 15, 20, _____, _____, _____

9. 8000, 4000, 2000, 1000, _____, _____, _____

10. 92, 89, 86, 83, _____, _____, _____

11. 3, 9, 27, 81, _____, _____, _____

12. 540, 270, 90, 22.5, _____, _____, _____

Tell whether each situation produces an *arithmetic sequence*, *geometric sequence*, or *neither*.

13. The temperature rises at the rate of 0.75°F per hour. _____

14. A toadstool doubles in size each week. _____

15. A person receives a 6% raise each year. _____

Find the first four terms of the sequence represented by each expression.

16. $-5n$

17. $4 + 3(n-2)$

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