

E.Q.:

Why are sequences functions?

How do I write recursive and explicit formulas for arithmetic sequences?

How do we solve equations for a variable (Literal equations)?

An **arithmetic sequence** is a sequence where the difference between consecutive terms is *constant*.

The difference between consecutive terms of an arithmetic sequence is called the **common difference**.

Writing Arithmetic Sequences

Recursive Formula

$$a_1 = \text{first term}$$

$$a_n = a_{n-1} + d$$

Explicit Formula

$$a_n = dn + a_0$$

Writing and Using Formulas for Arithmetic Sequences

Given the arithmetic

sequence $-3, -1, 1, 3, \dots$

a) write a recursive formula

for the sequence.

$$\begin{cases} a_1 = -3 \\ a_n = a_{n-1} + 2 \end{cases}$$

b) write an explicit formula

for the sequence

$$a_n = dn + a_0$$

$$a_n = 2n + -5$$

c) what is the 56th term of the sequence?

$$a_{56} = 2(56) + -5$$

$$a_{56} = 107$$

Given the arithmetic

sequence $10, 5, 0, -5, \dots$

a) write a recursive formula

for the sequence.

$$\begin{cases} a_1 = 10 \\ a_n = a_{n-1} + -5 \end{cases}$$

b) write an explicit formula

for the sequence

$$a_n = -5n + 15$$

$$\text{or } a_n = -5(n-1) + 10$$

c) what is the 20th term of the sequence?

$$a_{20} = -5(20) + 15 = -85$$

Writing and Using Formulas for Arithmetic Sequences

Given the arithmetic sequence 20, 15, 10, 5, ...

a) write a recursive formula for the sequence.

$$\begin{cases} a_1 = 20 \\ a_n = a_{n-1} + -5 \end{cases}$$

b) write an explicit formula for the sequence

$$a_n = -5n + 25 \text{ or } -5(n-1) + 20$$

c) what is the 20th term of the sequence?

$$\begin{aligned} a_{20} &= -5(20) + 25 \\ &= -75 \end{aligned}$$

d) -135 is which term in this sequence?

$$-135 = -5n + 25$$

$$-160 = -5n$$

$$32 = n$$

What are the second and third terms of the sequence

100, 94, 88, 82, ... ?

$$\begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ \underbrace{100} & \underbrace{94} & \underbrace{88} & 82 \\ -6 & -6 & & \end{array}$$

$$\frac{100 - 82}{1 - 4} = \frac{18}{-3} = -6$$

Given the following sequence: $\frac{4}{1}, \frac{9}{2}, \frac{14}{3}, \frac{19}{4}, \frac{24}{5}, \frac{29}{6}, \dots$

1) Find the common difference between terms (5)

2) Write an explicit formula for the sequence

3) Find the 20th term of the sequence

4) 129 represents which term in the sequence?

$$a_n = 5n + a_0$$

$$14 = 5(3) + a_0$$

$$14 = 15 + a_0$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -15 \\ -15 \end{array}$$

$$\underline{\underline{-1}} = a_0$$

$$a_n = 5n - 1$$

$$a_{20} = 99$$

$$129 = 5n - 1$$

$$130 = 5n$$

$$26 = n$$

$$\underline{\underline{a_n = 5(n-1) + 4}}$$

Given:

The 10th term of an arithmetic sequence is 40 and the 14th term is 28

1) Find the common difference between terms

$$\frac{40 - 28}{10 - 14} = \frac{12}{-4} = -3$$

2) Write an explicit formula for the sequence

3) Find the 20th term of the sequence

$$a_{20} = -3(20) + 70 = 10$$

4) 58 represents which term in the sequence?

$$58 = -3n + 70$$

$$-12 = -3n$$

$$+4 = n$$

#2)

$$a_n = -3n + a_0$$

$$28 = -3(14) + a_0$$

$$28 = -42 + a_0$$

$$+42 \quad +42$$

$$70 = a_0$$

$$a_n = -3n + 70$$

Practice with Sequences

HW #11

Arithmetic Sequences