

## 9.3 Geometric Sequences

- a. I can identify a geometric sequence and state its common ratio.
- b. I can write an explicit rule for a geometric sequence.
  1. Given a term and common ratio.
  2. Given a sequence.
- c. I can find the nth term of a geometric sequence.

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Warm-up : Write the sequence in your notes

**{ 20, 14, 8, ...**

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- a. Identify the common difference.

$$d = -6$$

- b. Write the Explicit Formula

$$a_n = 20 + (n-1)(-6)$$

- c. Find the 75th term using your Explicit Formula

$$a_{75} = 20 + (75-1)(-6)$$

$$a_{75} = -424$$

*Yesterday we learned about arithmetic sequences.*

Are the following Arithmetic sequences?  
Explain why or why not.

{ 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, ...       $d = 1$

{ 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, ...      (multiplying 2)

Are the following Arithmetic sequences?  
Explain why or why not.

{ e, 2e, 3e, 4e, 5e, ...

{ e, e<sup>2</sup>, e<sup>3</sup>, e<sup>4</sup>, e<sup>5</sup>, ...


# Geometric Sequences

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Geometric Sequence: a sequence where each term is found by multiplying the previous term by a constant.

Constant: the constant you multiply by to get the next term.

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

GEOMETRIC SEQUENCE  




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

$a_n$  =  $n^{\text{th}}$  term in the sequence

$a_1$  = first term in the sequence

$r$  = common ratio

$n$  = # of term in the sequence

1. Determine the next terms of the geometric sequence then write the Explicit Formula

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{ 5, 15, 45, 135, 405, 1215, ...

$$a_1 = \underline{5}$$

Explicit Formula

$$r = \underline{3}$$

$$a_n = 5 \cdot (3)^{(n-1)}$$

Use the Explicit Formula to find the 9<sup>th</sup> term

$$a_9 = 5 \cdot (3)^{(9-1)}$$

$$a_9 = 32,805$$

2. Determine the next terms of the geometric sequence then write the Explicit Formula

{ -3, 9, -27, 81, -243, 729, ...

$$a_1 = \underline{-3}$$

Explicit Formula

$$r = \underline{-3}$$

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

Use the Explicit Formula to find the 9<sup>th</sup> term

$$a_9 = (-3)(-3)^{(9-1)} = -19,683$$

Find the  $n^{\text{th}}$  term using an Explicit Formula

3.  $a_1 = 200$   $r = \frac{1}{2}$   $n = 7$

$$a_n = 200 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{(n-1)}$$

$$a_7 = 200 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{(7-1)}$$

$$a_7 = 3.125$$

4.  $a_1 = 2$   $r = 3$   $n = 15$

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

$$a_{15} = 2(3)^{(15-1)}$$

$$a_{15} = 9,565,938$$

Write an Explicit Formula for the  $n^{\text{th}}$  term of the geometric sequence. Then find  $a_8$  using your formula.

5. 5, 10, 20, 40, ...

$$r = 2$$

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a.) Explicit Formula

$$a_n = 5(2)^{(n-1)}$$

b.) Find  $a_8$

$$a_8 = 5(2)^{(8-1)}$$

$$a_8 = 640$$

6. 6, -30, 150, -750, ...

$$r = -5$$

a.) Explicit Formula

$$a_n = 6(-5)^{(n-1)}$$

b.) Find  $a_8$

$$a_8 = 6(-5)^{(8-1)}$$

$$a_8 = -468,750$$

## Closing Question

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You decide to try a new savings plan. You will deposit \$10 at the end of week 1, \$20 at the end of week 2, and \$40 at the end of week 3. You will continue this pattern.

10, 20, 40, ...  $\cdot 2$

- a) What kind of sequence is this?    Arithmetic    Geometric
- b) Write an Explicit Formula that represents the sequence described

$$a_n = 10(2)^{(n-1)}$$

- c) Using your formula from part B, how much money will you deposit in week 10?

$$a_{10} = 10(2)^{(10-1)} = \$5,120$$

Is this a sustainable pattern of savings?

Practice!

