



**Calculator Free  
Geometric Sequences**

Time: 45 minutes  
Total Marks: 45  
Your Score: / 45

**Question One: [2, 2, 3 = 7 marks]**

Define each of the following sequences recursively and state  $T_6$  :

(a) 10, 20, 40, 80 ...

(b) 1000, 500, 250, 125 ...

(c)  $1, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{4}{9}, \frac{8}{27} \dots$

**Question Two: [1, 2, 2 = 5 marks]**

Consider the sequence  $U_{n+1} = \frac{U_{n-1}}{-2}$  ;  $U_2 = 50$

(a) Calculate  $U_3$

(b) Calculate  $U_1$

(c) Determine the general term of the sequence.

**Question Three: [2, 2, 1, 2, 2 = 9 marks]**

The first term of a geometric sequence is 6 and the 4<sup>th</sup> term is 48.

- (a) Determine the common ratio of this sequence.
- (b) Hence or otherwise define this sequence recursively.
- (c) Calculate  $T_5$
- (d) Calculate  $S_4$
- (e) Determine when the sequence first has a value greater than 300.

**Question Four: [2 marks]**

Show that the sequence  $A_n = 100 \times 0.5^{n-1}$  can be written as  $A_n = 200 \times \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n$

**Question Five: [4 marks]**

Determine when the value of the sequence  $T_{n+1} = 2T_n$  ;  $T_1 = 16$  and of the sequence

$T_n = 256 \times \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}$  are equivalent.

**Question Six: [5 marks]**

The 4<sup>th</sup> term of a geometric sequence is 5000 and the 7<sup>th</sup> term is 5 000 000.

Determine the value of the first term and the common ratio of this sequence.

**Question Seven: [5, 1, 2 = 8 marks]**

The first three terms of a geometric sequence are  $x - 2$ ,  $x + 1$ ,  $x + 5$

- (a) Determine the common ratio of this sequence.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- (b) Determine the value of the first term.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- (c) Hence determine the values of  $a$  and  $b$  in the rule defining this sequence:  
$$T_n = a \times b^n$$

**Question Eight: [3, 2 = 5 marks]**

The first three terms of a geometric series are  $S_1 = 3$ ,  $S_2 = -3$ ,  $S_3 = 9$

- (a) Determine the first three terms of the sequence.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- (b) Explain whether  $T_{45}$  will be positive or negative.



**SOLUTIONS**  
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Time: 45 minutes  
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**Question One: [2, 2, 3 = 7 marks]**

Define each of the following sequences recursively and state  $T_6$  :

- (a) 10, 20, 40, 80 ...

$$T_n = 2 \times T_{n-1}; T_1 = 10 \quad \checkmark$$

$$T_6 = 320 \quad \checkmark$$

- (b) 1000, 500, 250, 125 ...

$$T_n = 0.5 \times T_{n-1}; T_1 = 1000 \quad \checkmark$$

$$T_6 = 31.25 \quad \checkmark$$

- (c)  $1, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{4}{9}, \frac{8}{27} \dots$

$$T_n = \frac{2}{3} \times T_{n-1}; T_1 = 1 \quad \checkmark$$

$$T_6 = \frac{32}{243} \quad \checkmark$$

**Question Two: [1, 2, 2 = 5 marks]**

Consider the sequence  $U_{n+1} = \frac{U_{n-1}}{-2}; U_2 = 50$

- (a) Calculate  $U_3$   $U_3 = \frac{50}{-2} = -25 \quad \checkmark$

- (b) Calculate  $U_1$   $50 = \frac{U_1}{-2} \quad \checkmark$   
 $U_1 = -100 \quad \checkmark$

- (c) Determine the general term of the sequence.

$$U_n = -100 \times \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{(n-1)} \quad \checkmark \quad \checkmark$$

**Question Three: [2, 2, 1, 2, 2 = 9 marks]**

The first term of a geometric sequence is 6 and the 4<sup>th</sup> term is 48.

- (a) Determine the common ratio of this sequence.

$$6 \times r^3 = 48 \quad \checkmark$$

$$r^3 = 8$$

$$r = 2 \quad \checkmark$$

- (b) Hence or otherwise define this sequence recursively.

$$T_n = 2 \times T_{n-1}; T_1 = 6 \quad \checkmark$$

- (c) Calculate  $T_5$

$$\begin{aligned} T_5 &= 6 \times 2^{(5-1)} \\ &= 6 \times 16 = 96 \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

- (d) Calculate  $S_4$

$$S_4 = \frac{6(2^4 - 1)}{2 - 1} = 6 \times 15 = 90 \quad \checkmark$$

- (e) Determine when the sequence first has a value greater than 300.

$$300 = 6 \times 2^{(n-1)} \quad \checkmark$$

$$50 = 2^{(n-1)}$$

$$50 < 2^{(7-1)}$$

$$n = 7 \quad \checkmark$$

**Question Four: [2 marks]**

Show that the sequence  $A_n = 100 \times 0.5^{n-1}$  can be written as  $A_n = 200 \times \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n$

$$A_n = 100 \times 0.5^n \times 0.5^{-1} \quad \checkmark$$

$$= 100 \times 2 \times 0.5^n$$

$$= 200 \times \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n \quad \checkmark$$

**Question Five: [4 marks]**

Determine when the value of the sequence  $T_{n+1} = 2T_n$  ;  $T_1 = 16$  and of the sequence

$T_n = 256 \times \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}$  are equivalent.

$$16 \times 2^{n-1} = 256 \times 2^{(-n+1)} \quad \checkmark$$

$$\frac{2^{(n-1)}}{2^{(-n+1)}} = \frac{256}{16} \quad \checkmark$$

$$2^{2n-2} = 16$$

$$2^{2n-2} = 2^4 \quad \checkmark$$

$$2n - 2 = 4$$

$$2n = 6$$

$$n = 3 \quad \checkmark$$

**Question Six: [5 marks]**

The 4<sup>th</sup> term of a geometric sequence is 5000 and the 7<sup>th</sup> term is 5 000 000.

Determine the value of the first term and the common ratio of this sequence.

$$5000 \times r^3 = 5000000 \quad \checkmark$$

$$r^3 = 1000 \quad \checkmark$$

$$r = 10 \quad \checkmark$$

$$5000 = a \times 10^3 \quad \checkmark$$

$$5000 = a \times 1000$$

$$a = 5 \quad \checkmark$$

**Question Seven: [5, 1, 2 = 8 marks]**

The first three terms of a geometric sequence are  $x - 2$ ,  $x + 1$ ,  $x + 5$

- (a) Determine the common ratio of this sequence.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{x+1}{x-2} &= \frac{x+5}{x+1} \checkmark \\ (x+1)(x+1) &= (x+5)(x-2) \checkmark \\ x^2 + 2x + 1 &= x^2 + 3x - 10 \checkmark \\ -x &= -11 \\ x &= 11 \checkmark \\ r &= \frac{11+1}{11-2} = \frac{12}{9} = \frac{4}{3} \checkmark\end{aligned}$$

- (b) Determine the value of the first term.

$$a = 11 - 2 = 9 \checkmark$$

- (c) Hence determine the values of  $a$  and  $b$  in the rule defining this sequence:

$$T_n = a \times b^n$$

$$\begin{aligned}b &= \frac{4}{3} \checkmark \\ a &= \frac{27}{4} = 6\frac{3}{4} \checkmark\end{aligned}$$

**Question Eight: [3, 2 = 5 marks]**

The first three terms of a geometric series are  $S_1 = 3$ ,  $S_2 = -3$ ,  $S_3 = 9$

- (a) Determine the first three terms of the sequence.

$$\begin{aligned}T_1 &= 3 \checkmark \\ T_2 &= -3 - 3 = -6 \checkmark \\ T_3 &= 9 - -3 = 12 \checkmark\end{aligned}$$

- (b) Explain whether  $T_{45}$  will be positive or negative.

Positive, the odd terms are positive and the even are negative.   
 $\checkmark$   $\checkmark$