

**MASSACHUSETTS MATHEMATICS LEAGUE  
CONTEST 5 – FEBRUARY 2012 SOLUTION KEY**

**Round 6**

A)  $8x + 3 - 7x = 7x - (4x + 1) \Rightarrow 2x = 4 \Rightarrow x = 2$

AP: 9, 14, 19, ...

$$a = 9, d = 5 \text{ and } n = 30 \quad S_{30} = \frac{30}{2}(2(9) + (30-1)5) = 15(18 + 29 \cdot 5) = 15(163) = \underline{\underline{2445}}$$

B) The first three terms of the AP are  $(x + 2)$ ,  $(4x + 14)$  and  $(12x + 6)$ .

The common difference  $d = (4x + 14) - (x + 2) = (12x + 6) - (4x + 14) \Rightarrow 3x + 12 = 8x - 8$   
 $\Rightarrow x = 4$  and  $d = 24$ . The AP is 6, 30, 54, ... and the GP is 6, 18, 54, ... .

The required ratio is  $(54 + 48) : (54 \cdot 9) = 102 : 486 = \underline{\underline{17 : 81}}$ .

C)  $t_n$  generates a geometric sequence, where  $r = -\frac{2}{3}$  and  $a = -2$ .

Since  $|r| < 1$ , the infinite geometric series converges to  $\frac{a}{1-r} = \frac{-2}{1+\frac{2}{3}} = -\frac{6}{5}$ .

$$B_3 = (1-i)^1 + (1-i)^2 + (1-i)^3 = 1-i + (-1-2i+1) + (-2i-2) = -1-5i.$$

$$\frac{A}{B_3} = -\frac{6}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{-1-5i} \cdot \frac{-1+5i}{-1+5i} = \frac{6-30i}{5(26)} = \underline{\underline{\frac{3-15i}{65}}}.$$