

Practice Exercises

A. Determine if each geometric series has a sum. If the sum exists, find the sum.

1. $4 + 1\frac{1}{4} + \dots$

2. $4 + 2 + 1 + \dots$

3. $16 + 8 + 4 + 2 + \dots$

4. $1 + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{27} + \dots$

5. $16 + 1.6 + 0.16 + \dots$

B. In each infinite geometric series, find the specified unknown.

1. $S = 45; a_1 = 15; r = ?$

2. $S = 28; r = \frac{1}{7}; a_1 = ?$

3. $S = 80; \quad r = \frac{1}{5}; \quad a_1 = ?$

4. $S = \frac{1}{3}; \quad a_1 = \frac{3}{10}; \quad r = ?$

5. $S = \frac{4\sqrt{3}}{3}; \quad r = \frac{1}{4}; \quad a_1 = ?$

Problem Set

A. Determine if each geometric series has a sum. If the sum exists, find the sum.

1. $1 + \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{4} + \left(-\frac{1}{8}\right) + \dots$

2. $4 + 2.4 + 1.44 + \dots$

3. $6 + 2 + \frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{9} + \dots$

4. $(-5) + (-0.5) + (-0.05) + \dots$

5. $1 + \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right) + \frac{1}{9} + \left(-\frac{1}{27}\right) + \dots$

B. In each infinite geometric series, find the specified unknown.

1. $S = -10$; $a_1 = -5$; $r = ?$

2. $S = -52$; $a_1 = -65$; $r = ?$

3. $S = -\frac{2}{5}; a_1 = -\frac{1}{4}; r = ?$

4. $S = -36; a_1 = -60; r = ?$

5. $S = 384; r = \frac{1}{3}; a_1 = ?$

Problem Set

A.

1. $a = 1$

$$r = -\frac{1}{2} \div 1 = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$S = \frac{a}{1 - r}$$

$$S = \frac{1}{1 - (-\frac{1}{2})}$$

$$S = \frac{1}{\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$S = \frac{2}{3}$$

2. $a = 4$

$$r = 2.4 \div 4 = 0.6$$

$$S = \frac{a}{1 - r}$$

$$S = \frac{4}{1 - 0.6}$$

$$S = \frac{0.4}{0.4}$$

$$S = 10$$

3. $a = 6$

$$r = 2 \div 6 = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$S = \frac{a}{1 - r}$$

$$S = \frac{6}{1 - \frac{1}{3}}$$

$$S = \frac{6}{\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$S = 6 \left(\frac{3}{2} \right)$$

$$S = 9$$

$$4. a = -5$$

$$r = -0.5 \div (-5) = 0.1$$

$$S = \frac{a}{1 - r}$$

$$S = \frac{-5}{1 - 0.1}$$

$$S = \frac{-5}{0.9}$$

$$S = -5.6$$

$$5. a = 1$$

$$r = -\frac{1}{3} \div 1 = -\frac{1}{3}$$

$$S = \frac{a}{1 - r}$$

$$S = \frac{1}{1 - (-\frac{1}{3})}$$

$$S = \frac{1}{\frac{4}{3}}$$

$$S = \frac{3}{4}$$

B.

$$1. S = \frac{a}{1 - r}$$

$$(1 - r) \left[-10 = \frac{-5}{1 - r} \right]$$

$$-10 + 10r = -5$$

$$10r = -5 + 10$$

$$\frac{10r}{10} = \frac{5}{10}$$

$$r = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$2. S = \frac{a}{1-r}$$

$$(1-r) \left[-52 = \frac{-65}{1-r} \right]$$

$$-52 + 52r = -65$$

$$52r = -65 + 52$$

$$\frac{52r}{52} = \frac{-13}{52}$$

$$r = -\frac{1}{4}$$

$$3. S = \frac{a}{1-r}$$

$$(1-r) \left[-\frac{2}{5} = \frac{-\frac{1}{4}}{1-r} \right]$$

$$-\frac{2}{5} + \frac{2}{5}r = -\frac{1}{4}$$

$$\frac{2}{5}r = -\frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{5}$$

$$\frac{2}{5} \left[\frac{2}{5}r = \frac{3}{20} \right]$$

$$r = \frac{3}{8}$$

$$4. S = \frac{a}{1-r}$$

$$(1-r) \left[-36 = \frac{-60}{1-r} \right]$$

$$-36 + 36r = -60$$

$$36r = -60 + 36$$

$$\frac{36r}{36} = \frac{-24}{36}$$

$$r = -\frac{2}{3}$$

$$5. S = \frac{\frac{3a}{2}}{1-r}$$

$$384 = \frac{a}{1 - \frac{1}{3}}$$

$$\frac{2}{3} \left[384 = \frac{a}{\frac{2}{3}} \right]$$

$$a = 256$$