

PRE-CALCULUS: by Finney, Demana, Watts and Kennedy  
**Geometric Sequences and Series**

What you'll Learn About  
 • Geometric Series: multiplying by the same # each time

Determine if the following series is Geometric. If it is give the common ratio.

$\frac{\text{next}}{\text{previous}}$

2) 3, 12, 48, 192, ...

4) 1, -2, 4, -8, ...

common ratio =  $\frac{12}{3} = 4$   
 $= \frac{48}{12} = 4$   
 $= \frac{192}{48} = 4$   
 $r = 4$

$r = -2$

6) 5, 1, .2, .04, ...

10)  $\frac{1}{5}, \frac{2}{7}, \frac{3}{9}, \frac{4}{11}, \dots$

5, 1, .2, .04

NO

$r = .2 = \frac{1}{5}$

Write the first 5 terms of the geometric sequence

12)  $a_1 = 4$   $r = 2$

16)  $a_1 = 6$   $r = -1/4$

4, 8, 16, 32, 64

$\frac{6}{1}, \frac{-6}{4}, \frac{6}{16}, \frac{-6}{64}, \frac{6}{256}$

18)  $a_1 = 4$   $r = \sqrt{3}$

$4(\sqrt{3} \cdot \sqrt{3})$

4,  $4\sqrt{3}$ , 12,  $12\sqrt{3}$ , 36

$$a_n = a_1 + d(n-1)$$

$$A_n = a_1 r^{n-1} \text{ when } n=1$$

or

$$A_n = a_1 r^n \text{ when } n=0$$

Use the recursive rule to write the first five terms of the sequence. Then, write the sequence as a function of n.

$$20) a_1 = 81 \quad a_{k+1} = \frac{1}{3} a_k \quad r = \frac{1}{3}$$

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$$81, 27, 9, 3, 1$$

$a_1$

Explicit Formula

$$a_n = 81 \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n-1}$$

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

$$24) a_1 = 30 \quad a_{k+1} = -\frac{2}{3} a_k$$

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$$\frac{30}{1}, \frac{-60}{3}, \frac{120}{9}, \frac{-240}{27}, \frac{-480}{81}$$

$$a_n = 30 \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)^{n-1}$$