

**IB Math Studies 1 BELL WORK**

1) Find the first term of the geometric sequence  
2, 6, 18, 54, .... which exceeds 10 000.

2) Find the first term of the geometric sequence  
4,  $4\sqrt{3}$ , 12,  $12\sqrt{3}$ , .... which exceeds 4800.

**Chapter**

# 5

## **Sequences and series**

- A** Number sequences
- B** The general term of a number sequence
- C** Arithmetic sequences
- D** Geometric sequences
- E** Series
- F** Compound interest
- G** Depreciation

**Syllabus reference: 1.7, 1.8, 1.9**

**E****SERIES**

A **series** is the addition of the terms of a sequence.

21, 23, 25, 27, ..., 49 is an arithmetic sequence.

$21 + 23 + 25 + 27 + \dots + 49$  is an arithmetic series.

For the sequence  $\{u_n\}$  the corresponding series is  $u_1 + u_2 + u_3 + \dots$

The **sum** of a series is the result when we perform the addition.

Given a series which includes the first  $n$  terms of a sequence, its sum is  
$$S_n = u_1 + u_2 + u_3 + \dots + u_n .$$

## **SUM OF AN ARITHMETIC SERIES**

Find the sum of the series:

$$4 + 6 + 8 + \dots + 26$$

The sum is referred to as  $S_n$ .

For this series, list  $u_1$ ,  $d$ ,  $n$ , and  $u_n$ .

$$4 + 6 + 8 + \dots + 26$$

You try it. Find the sum of the series.

$$9 + 12 + 15 + \dots + 30$$

The sum of an arithmetic series with  $n$  terms is

$$S_n = \frac{n}{2}(u_1 + u_n) \quad \text{or} \quad S_n = \frac{n}{2}(2u_1 + (n - 1)d).$$



Find the sum of  $4 + 7 + 10 + 13 + \dots$  to 50 terms.

Find the sum of  $-6 + 1 + 8 + 15 + \dots + 141$ .

## GEOMETRIC SERIES

A **geometric series** is the addition of successive terms of a geometric sequence.

If we are adding the first  $n$  terms of a geometric sequence, we say we have a **finite geometric series**.

If we are adding all of the terms in a geometric sequence which goes on and on forever, we say we have an **infinite geometric series**.

## SUM OF A FINITE GEOMETRIC SERIES

For a finite geometric series with  $r \neq 1$ ,

$$S_n = \frac{u_1(r^n - 1)}{r - 1} \quad \text{or} \quad S_n = \frac{u_1(1 - r^n)}{1 - r}.$$

Find the sum of  $2 + 6 + 18 + 54 + \dots$  to 12 terms.

$$S_{12} = \frac{u_1 (r^n - 1)}{r - 1} \quad \begin{array}{l} u_1 = 2 \\ r = 3 \end{array}$$

$$S_{12} = \frac{2(3^{12} - 1)}{3 - 1} = 531,440$$

Find a formula for  $S_n$  for the first  $n$  terms of  
 $9 - 3 + 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \dots$

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

$$u_1 = 9$$

$$n = n$$

$$S_n = \frac{9\left(\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)^n - 1\right)}{-\frac{1}{3} - 1}$$

$$S_n = \frac{-27\left(\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)^n - 1\right)}{4}$$

$-\frac{3}{4}$

$$\left( \frac{9\left(\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)^n - 1\right)}{-\frac{4}{3}} \right)$$

A geometric sequence has first term 5 and common ratio 2.  
The sum of the first  $n$  terms of the sequence is 635. Find  $n$ .

$$S_n = \frac{u_1 (r^n - 1)}{r - 1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_n &= 635 \\ u_1 &= 5 \\ r &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$635 = \frac{5(2^n - 1)}{2 - 1}$$

$$127 = 2^n - 1$$

$$128 = 2^n$$

$$\log_2 128 = n$$

$n = 7$

Assignment:

5 E.1 # 4, 7

5 E.2 # 2, 3, 6