

N – Sequences and Series, Lesson 1, Sequences (r. 2018)

SEQUENCES AND SERIES

Sequences

CC Standard	NG Standard
<p>F-IF.A.3 Recognize that sequences are functions, sometimes defined recursively, whose domain is a subset of the integers. For example, the Fibonacci sequence is defined recursively by $f(0) = f(1) = 1$, $f(n+1) = f(n) + f(n-1)$ for $n \geq 1$.</p> <p>PARCC: This standard is part of the Major work in Algebra I and will be assessed accordingly.</p>	<p>AI-F.IF.3 Recognize that a sequence is a function whose domain is a subset of the integers. (Shared standard with Algebra II)</p> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sequences (arithmetic and geometric) will be written explicitly and only in subscript notation. Work with geometric sequences may involve an exponential equation/formula of the form $a_n = ar^{n-1}$, where a is the first term and r is the common ratio.
<p>F-LE.2 Construct linear and exponential functions, including arithmetic and geometric sequences, given a graph, a description of a relationship, or two input-output pairs (include reading these from a table).</p> <p>PARCC: Tasks are limited to constructing linear and exponential functions in simple context (not multi-step).</p>	<p>AI-F.LE.2 Construct a linear or exponential function symbolically given:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a graph; a description of the relationship; two input-output pairs (include reading these from a table). <p>(Shared standard with Algebra II)</p> <p>Note: Tasks are limited to constructing linear and exponential functions in simple context (not multi-step).</p>

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to:

- 1) Define sequences as recursive functions.
- 2) Evaluate recursive functions for the nth term.

Overview of Lesson

Teacher Centered Introduction	Student Centered Activities
<p>Overview of Lesson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - activate students' prior knowledge - vocabulary - learning objective(s) - big ideas: direct instruction - modeling 	<p>guided practice ←Teacher: anticipates, monitors, selects, sequences, and connects student work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - developing essential skills - Regents exam questions - formative assessment assignment (exit slip, explain the math, or journal entry)

VOCABULARY

arithmetic progression
explicit formula
geometric progression
pattern
recursive formula

sequence
series
set
term

BIG IDEAS

An **explicit formula** is one where you do not need to know the value of the term in front of the term that you are seeking. For example, if you want to know the 55th term in a series, an explicit formula could be used without knowing the value of the 54th term.

Example: The sequence 3, 11, 19, 27, ... begins with 3, and 8 is added each time to form the pattern. The sequence can be shown in a table as follows:

Term # (n)	1	2	3	4
$f(n)$	3	11	19	27

Explicit formulas for the sequence 3, 11, 19, 27, ... can be written as:

$$f(n) = 8n - 5 \quad \text{or} \quad f(n) = 3 + 8(n - 1)$$

Using these **explicit formulas**, we can find the following values for any term, and we do not need to know the value of any other term, as shown below:

$f(n) = 8n - 5$	$f(n) = 3 + 8(n - 1)$
$f(1) = 8(1) - 5 = 3$	$f(1) = 3 + 8(1 - 1) = 3 + 0 = 3$
$f(2) = 8(2) - 5 = 16 - 5 = 11$	$f(2) = 3 + 8(2 - 1) = 3 + 8 = 11$
$f(3) = 8(3) - 5 = 24 - 5 = 19$	$f(3) = 3 + 8(3 - 1) = 3 + 16 = 19$
$f(4) = 8(4) - 5 = 32 - 5 = 27$	$f(4) = 3 + 8(4 - 1) = 3 + 24 = 27$
$f(5) = 8(5) - 5 = 40 - 5 = 35$	$f(5) = 3 + 8(5 - 1) = 3 + 32 = 35$
$f(10) = 8(10) - 5 = 80 - 5 = 75$	$f(10) = 3 + 8(10 - 1) = 3 + 72 = 75$
$f(100) = 8(100) - 5 = 800 - 5 = 795$	$f(100) = 3 + 8(100 - 1) = 3 + 792 = 795$

Recursive formulas requires you to know the value of another term, usually the preceding term, to find the value of a specific term.

Example: Using the same sequence 3, 11, 19, 27, ... as above, a **recursive formula** for the sequence 3, 11, 19, 27, ... can be written as:

$$f(n + 1) = f(n) + 8$$

This **recursive formula** tells us that the value of any term in the sequence is equal to the value of the term before it plus 8. A recursive formula must usually be anchored to a specific term in the sequence (usually the first term), so the recursive formula for the sequence 3, 11, 19, 27, ... could be anchored with the statement

$$f(1) = 3$$

Using this **recursive formula**, we can reconstruct the sequence as follows:

$f(1) = 3$	Observe that the recursive formula
$f(2) = f(1) + 8 = 3 + 8 = 11$	$f(n + 1) = f(n) + 8$ includes two different
$f(3) = f(2) + 8 = 11 + 8 = 19$	values of the dependent variable, which in
$f(4) = f(3) + 8 = 19 + 8 = 27$	this example are $f(n)$ and $f(n + 1)$, and we
$f(5) = f(4) + 8 = 27 + 8 = 35$	can only reconstruct our original sequence
$f(10) = f(9) + 8 = ? + 8 = ?$	using this recursive formula if we know the
	term immediately preceding the term we are
	seeking.

Two Kinds of Sequences

arithmetic sequence (A2T) A set of numbers in which the common difference between each term and the preceding term is constant.

Example: In the **arithmetic sequence** 2, 5, 8, 11, 14, ... the common difference between each term and the preceding term is 3. A table of values for this sequence is:

Term # (n)	1	2	3	4	5
$f(n)$	2	5	8	11	14

An **explicit formula** for this sequence is $f(n) = 3n - 1$

A **recursive formula** for this sequence is: $f(n+1) = f(n) + 3$, $f(1) = 2$

geometric sequence (A2T) A set of terms in which each term is formed by multiplying the preceding term by a common nonzero constant.

Example: In the geometric sequence 2, 4, 8, 16, 32... the common ratio is 2. Each term is 2 times the preceding term. A table of values for this sequence is:

Term (n)	1	2	3	4	5
$f(n)$	2	4	8	16	32

An **explicit formula** for this sequence is $f(n) = 2^n$

A **recursive formula** for this sequence is: $f(n+1) = 2f(n)$, $f(1) = 2$

DEVELOPING ESSENTIAL SKILLS

- 1) If $f(1) = 5$ and $f(n) = -3f(n-1)$, then $f(4) =$
 - 1) -15
 - 2) 20
 - 3) 45
 - 4) -135

- 2) If a sequence is defined recursively by $f(0) = 6$ and $f(n+1) = -3f(n) + 4$ for all $n \geq 0$, then $f(2)$ is equal to
 - 1) 22
 - 2) -27
 - 3) 46
 - 4) -14

- 3) In a sequence, the first term is 3 and the common difference is 4. The fifth term of this sequence is
 - 1) -11
 - 2) -8
 - 3) 16
 - 4) 19

- 4) Given the function $f(n)$ defined by the following:

$$f(1) = 7$$

$$f(n) = -3f(n-1) + 4$$

Which set could represent the range of the function?

- 1) $\{7, -17, 55, -111, \dots\}$
- 2) $\{7, 25, 79, 321, \dots\}$
- 3) $\{1, 7, 17, 55, \dots\}$
- 4) $\{1, 7, 25, 79, \dots\}$

ANSWERS

- 1) 4
 - 2) 3
 - 3) 4
 - 4) 1
-

$$f(0) = 2$$

$$f(1) = f(0 + 1) = -2f(0) + 3 = -2(2) + 3 = -4 + 3 = -1$$

$$f(2) = f(1 + 1) = -2f(1) + 3 = -2(-1) + 3 = 2 + 3 = 5$$

Answer choice c corresponds to $f(2) = 5$.

PTS: 2 NAT: F.IF.A.3 TOP: Sequences

489) ANS: 3

Step 1. Understand that the problem wants to know the fifth term in a sequence when the first term is 4 and the common difference is 3.

Step 2. Strategy. Build a table.

Step 3. Execute the strategy.	Term #	1	2	3	4	5
	Value	4	7	10	13	16

Step 4. Does it make sense? Yes. You can check it by writing the following formula based on the table and using it to find any term in this arithmetic sequence.

$$a_n = 3n + 1$$

$$a_5 = 3(5) + 1$$

$$a_5 = 16$$

PTS: 2 NAT: F.IF.A.3 TOP: Sequences KEY: term

490) ANS: 2

The first value in the function must be 2. Therefore, $\{-8, -42, -208, 1042, \dots\}$ and $\{-10, 50, -250, 1250, \dots\}$ must be **wrong** choices.

$$f(n) = -5f(n - 1) + 2$$

$$f(1) = 2$$

$$f(2) = -5f(1) + 2$$

$$f(2) = -5(2) + 2$$

$$f(2) = -10 + 2$$

$$f(2) = -8$$

Since -8 is the second number, the correct answer choice is $\{2, -8, 42, -208, \dots\}$.

PTS: 2 NAT: F.IF.A.3 TOP: Sequences KEY: term

491) ANS: 3

$$a_n = a_{n-1} + n$$

$$a_1 = 1$$

$$a_2 = 1 + 2 = 3$$

$$a_3 = 3 + 3 = 6$$

$$a_4 = 6 + 4 = 10$$

$$a_5 = 10 + 5 = 15$$

$$a_6 = 15 + 6 = 21$$

$$a_7 = 21 + 7 = 28$$

PTS: 2 NAT: F.IF.A.3 TOP: Sequences KEY: term

492) ANS:

Yes. Each number in the sequence is three times bigger than the previous number, so the sequence has a common ratio, which is 3.

PTS: 2 NAT: F.LE.A.1 TOP: Families of Functions

493) ANS: 4

Strategy: If sunflower's height is modelled using a table, then the three formulas can be tested to see which one(s) produce results that agree with the table.

Weeks (n)	Height $f(n)$	$f(n) = 2n + 3$	$f(n) = 2n + 3(n - 1)$	$f(n) = f(n - 1) + 2$ where $f(0) = 3$
0	3	$f(0) = 2(0) + 3 = 3$	$f(0) =$ $2(0) + 3(0 - 1) =$ -3	$f(0) = 3$
1	5	$f(1) = 2(1) + 3 = 5$		$f(1) = f(0) + 2 = 3 + 2 = 5$
2	7	$f(2) = 2(2) + 3 = 7$		$f(2) = f(1) + 2 = 5 + 2 = 7$
3	9	$f(3) = 2(3) + 3 = 9$		$f(3) = f(2) + 2 = 7 + 2 = 9$

Formula I, $f(n) = 2n + 3$, is an explicit formula that *agrees* with the table.

Formula II is an explicit formula that *does not agree* with the table.

Formula III, $f(n) = f(n - 1) + 2$ where $f(0) = 3$, is a recursive formula that agrees with the table.

PTS: 2 NAT: F.IF.A.3 TOP: Sequences

494) ANS: 2

Strategy: Examine the pattern, then test each formula and eliminate wrong choices.

Term 1 has 12 shaded squares.

Term 2 has 16 shaded squares.

Term 3 has 20 shaded squares.

Choice	Equation	Term 1 = 12	Term 2 = 16	Term 3 = 20
a	$a_n = 4n + 12$	= 16 (eliminate)		
b	$a_n = 4n + 8$	= 12 (correct)	= 16 (correct)	= 20 (correct)
c	$a_n = 4n + 4$	= 8 (eliminate)		
d	$a_n = 4n + 2$	= 6 (eliminate)		

PTS: 2 NAT: F.LE.A.2 TOP: Sequences

495) ANS: 3

Strategy: Examine the pattern, then test each formula and eliminate wrong choices.

Term 1 has 2 squares.

Term 2 has 6 squares.

Term 3 has 10 squares.

Term 4 has 14 squares

n	1	2	3	4
a_n	2	6	10	14

Formula	Equation	Term 1 = 2	Term 2 = 6	Term 3 = 10	Term 4 = 14
I	$a_n = n + 4$	$a_n = n + 4$ $a_1 = 1 + 4$ $a_1 = 5$			

		This is wrong, so eliminate choices a and b..			
II	$a_1 = 2$ $a_n = a_{n-1} + 4$	$a_1 = 2$ correct	$a_n = a_{n-1} + 4$ $a_2 = a_1 + 4$ $a_2 = 2 + 4$ $a_2 = 6$ correct	$a_n = a_{n-1} + 4$ $a_3 = a_2 + 4$ $a_3 = 6 + 4$ $a_3 = 10$ correct	$a_n = a_{n-1} + 4$ $a_4 = a_3 + 4$ $a_4 = 10 + 4$ $a_3 = 14$ correct
III	$a_n = 4n - 2$	$a_n = 4n - 2$ $a_1 = 4(1) - 2$ $a_1 = 4 - 2$ $a_1 = 2$ correct	$a_n = 4n - 2$ $a_1 = 4(1) - 2$ $a_1 = 4 - 2$ $a_1 = 2$ correct	$a_n = 4n - 2$ $a_1 = 4(1) - 2$ $a_1 = 4 - 2$ $a_1 = 2$ correct	$a_n = 4n - 2$ $a_1 = 4(1) - 2$ $a_1 = 4 - 2$ $a_1 = 2$ correct

Choose answer choice *c* because Formulas II and III are both correct.

PTS: 2 NAT: F.BF.A.1 TOP: Sequences

496) ANS: 2

Strategy: Build the sequence in a table, then test each equation choice and eliminate wrong answers.

a_1	a_2	a_3	a_4	a_5
		10		26

The a_4 term must be half way between 10 and 26, so it must be 18.

The common difference is 8, so we can fill in the rest of the table as follows:

a_1	a_2	a_3	a_4	a_5
-6	2	10	18	26

The first term in the sequence is -6.

Choice	Equation	Term $a_1 = -6$	Term $a_3 = 10$	Term $a_5 = 26$
a	$a_n = 8n + 10$	= 18 (eliminate)		
b	$a_n = 8n - 14$	= -6 (correct)	= 10 (correct)	= 26 (correct)
c	$a_n = 16n + 10$	= 26 (eliminate)		
d	$a_n = 16n - 38$	= -12 (eliminate)		

PTS: 2 NAT: F.LE.A.2 TOP: Sequences

497) ANS: 1

Strategy: Eliminate wrong answers.

Choices *b* and *d* have first terms equal to 4, but the problem states that the first term is equal to 10. Therefore, eliminate choices *b* and *d*.

A common difference of 4 requires the addition or subtraction of 4 to find the next term in the sequence. Eliminate choice *c* because choice *c* multiplies the preceding term by 4.

Choice *a* is correct because the first term is 10 and 4 is added to each preceding term.

PTS: 2 NAT: F.IF.A.3 TOP: Sequences

498) ANS: 3

Each choice has a first term equal to 3.

Each additional term is twice its preceding term plus 1.

Strategy: Eliminate wrong answers and check.

All choices have show the the first term equals three: $f(1) = 3$.

Eliminate $f(1) = 3$, $f(n+1) = 2^{f(n)} + 3$ and $f(1) = 3$, $f(n+1) = 2^{f(n)} - 1$ because they are exponential.

Eliminate $f(1) = 3$, $f(n+1) = 3f(n) - 2$ because each term is not three times its preceding term minus two.

Check $f(1) = 3$, $f(n+1) = 2f(n) + 1$ as follows:

$$f(1) = 3, f(n+1) = 2f(n) + 1$$

$$f(2) = 2(3) + 1 = 7$$

$$f(3) = 2(7) + 1 = 15$$

$$f(4) = 2(15) + 1 = 31$$

$f(1) = 3$, $f(n+1) = 2f(n) + 1$ produces the sequence 3, 7, 15, 31,.....

PTS: 2 NAT: F..IF.A.3 TOP: Sequences

499) ANS: 1

Strategy #1

Construct the following table from the problem:

x	1	2	3	4	5	6
$f(x)$	-6	-10	-14	-18		

Then, input the four answer choices in a graphing calculator and inspect the table view to determine which answer choice reproduces the table.

Strategy #2

Use a graphing calculator to find a regression equation for the data in the above table.

PTS: 2 NAT: F.IF.A.2

500) ANS: 1

Strategy: Eliminate wrong answers.

The first ounce costs 49 cents, so eliminate any answer choice where a_1 does not equal 49.

PTS: 2 NAT: F.LE.A.2 TOP: Sequences

501) ANS: 3

STEP 1: Count the number of squares in Designs, 1, 2, 3, and 4.

$$\text{Design 1} = 3$$

$$\text{Design 2} = 5$$

$$\text{Design 3} = 7$$

$$\text{Design 4} = 9$$

STEP 2: Eliminate answer choices $y = 2x + 1$ and $y = 2x + 3$ because they are not written as recursive formulas.

STEP 3: Eliminate $a_1 = 1$ because the first value in the sequence is three, so $a_1 \neq 1$.

$$a_n = a_{n-1} + 2$$

STEP 4: Choose $a_1 = 3$

$$a_n = a_{n-1} + 2$$

PTS: 2 NAT: F.LE.A.2 TOP: Sequences

502) ANS: 1

Strategy: Find the constant rate of change, then write an equation to solve for the number of seats in row 20.

STEP 1. Find the constant rate of change.

Δx	x values increase by 1			
row # (x)	3	4	5	6
# seats (y)	31	33	35	37
Δy	y values increase by 2			

$$\text{constant rate of change} = m = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{2}{1} = 2$$

STEP 2. Write the slope-intercept form of the line having a constant rate of change of 2 and any pair of known x and y values.

Given $x = 3$	Solve for b $y = mx + b$	Write the Entire Equation $y = mx + b$
$y = 31$	$31 = 2(3) + b$	$y = mx + b$
$m = 2$	$31 = 6 + b$	$y = 2x + 25$
$b = ???$	$25 = b$	

STEP 3. Use the linear equation to solve for $x = 20$.

Notes	Left Expression	Sign	Right Expression
Given	y	=	$2x + 25$
Let x equal 20	y	=	$2(20) + 25$
Remove Parentheses	y	=	$40 + 25$
Simplify	y	=	65

PTS: 2 NAT: F.IF.A.3 TOP: Sequences KEY: term

503) ANS: 3

Strategy: Build a table.

n	Calculations	a_n
1	$a_1 = 1$, Given	1
2	$a_2 = n(a_{2-1}) = 2 \cdot 1 = 2$	2
3	$a_3 = n(a_{3-1}) = 3 \cdot 2 = 6$	6
4	$a_4 = n(a_{4-1}) = 4 \cdot 6 = 24$	24
5	$a_5 = n(a_{5-1}) = 5 \cdot 24 = 120$	120

The correct answer is $a_5 = 120$.

PTS: 2 NAT: F.IF.A.3 TOP: Sequences KEY: term

504) ANS: 2

Strategy: Use the distributive property to clear parentheses, then combine like terms.

Notes	Expression
Given	$3(x^2 + 2x - 3) - 4(4x^2 - 7x + 5)$
Distributive Property	$3x^2 + 6x - 9 - 16x^2 + 28x - 20$
Reorder by Like Terms	$3x^2 - 16x^2 + 6x + 28x - 9 - 20$
Combine Like Terms	$-13x^2 + 34x - 29$

PTS: 2 NAT: A.APR.A.1 TOP: Operations with Polynomials
KEY: subtraction

