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explicit  
arithmetic  
 $a_n = a_1 + (n-1)d$   
 $a_n = a_0 + nd$

geometric  
 $a_n = a_1(r)^{n-1}$   
 $a_n = a_0(r)^n$   
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Algebra II

Recursive  
 $a_1 =$   
 $a_n = a_{n-1}$

## Modeling Sequences

1. The formula below can be used to model which scenario?

$$a_1 = 3000$$

$$a_x = 0.80a_{x-1} \rightarrow \text{decreasing by } 20\%$$

- 1) The first row of a stadium has 3000 seats, and each row thereafter has 80 more seats than the row in front of it.
- 2) The last row of a stadium has 3000 seats, and each row before it has 80 fewer seats than the row behind it.
- 3) A bank account starts with a deposit of \$3000, and each year it grows by 80%.
- ④ The initial value of a specialty toy is \$3000, and its value each of the following years is 20% less.

2. Which situation *cannot* be modeled by the formula  $f(n) = f(n-1) + 20$  with  $f(1) = 10$ ?

$\rightarrow$  increasing by 20

- ✓1) Nancy put \$10 in her piggy bank on the first day and then added \$20 daily to her piggy bank.
- ✓2) Jay has a box of ten crayons and his teacher gives him twenty new crayons each month for good behavior.
- ③ Buzz has ten apples and that number increases by 20% per week.
- ④ Teresa has a block of metal that is 10°F and she heats it up at a rate of 20°F per minute.

$\rightarrow$  1.2

3. The sequence defined by  $r_1 = 15$  and  $r_n = 0.75r_{n-1}$  best models which scenario?

$\rightarrow$  decreases by 25%

- 1) Gerry's \$15 allowance is increased by \$0.75 each week.
- 2) A store that has not sold a \$15 item reduces the price by \$0.25 each week until someone purchases it.
- 3) A 15-gram sample of a chemical compound decays at a rate of 75% per hour.
- ④ A picture with an area of 15 square inches is reduced by 25% over and over again to make a proportionally smaller picture.

4. Which situation *cannot* be modeled by the formula  $a_n = a_{n-1} - 6$  with  $a_0 = 1000$ ?

$\rightarrow$  decreases by 6

- 1) A bank account with an initial balance of \$1000 increases by 6% each year. ✗
- ② Taylor is assigned 1000 SAT problems and completes 6 each day.
- 3) The starting population of fish in a pond is 1000 and the population decreases by 6% each day. ✗
- 4) Jessica has \$1000 saved and saves an additional \$6 each week. ✗

5. The height of Jenny's sunflower when she planted it was  $h_0 = 6$  inches. The sunflower grows by  $+0.25$  inches per day. Which formula can be used to determine the height, in inches, of Jenny's sunflower on day  $n$ ?

(1)  $h_0 = 6$   
 $h_n = 0.25a_{n-1}$

(3)  $h_0 = 6$   
 $h_n = h_{n-1} + 0.25$

(2)  $h_0 = 6$   
 $h_n = 6 + 0.25h_{n-1}$

(4)  $h_0 = 6$   
 $h_n = 6h_{n-1} + 0.25$

6. A lumber yard has  $a_0 = 1500$  2" by 4" pieces of wood that need to be transported to a construction site. A truck can take  $-100$  pieces of wood per trip. Which sequence can be used to determine the number of pieces of wood left at the lumberyard after  $n$  trips?

(1)  $a_0 = 1500$   
 $a_n = a_{n-1} - 100$

(3)  $a_0 = 1500$   
 $a_n = 1500 - 100a_{n-1}$

(2)  $a_0 = 1500$   
 $a_n = 100 - a_{n-1}$

(4)  $a_0 = 1500$   
 $a_n = 100 - 1500a_{n-1}$

7. A population of bacteria  $-3$  triples every day. If on the first day there are 300 bacteria in a Petri dish, which recursive sequence can be used to determine the population on day  $n$ ?

(1)  $b_1 = 300$   
 $b_n = 3b_{n-1}$

3)  $b_1 = 300$   
 $b_n = 300(3b_{n-1})$

2)  $b_1 = 300$   
 $b_n = b_{n-1} + 3$

4)  $b_1 = 300$   
 $b_n = \frac{1}{3}b_{n-1}$

8. Daniela invested  $a_0 = 2000$  in a stock that increases by  $1.016$  each week. Which of the following recursive sequences represents the value of her stock after  $n$  weeks?

1)  $a_0 = 2000$   
 $a_n = a_{n-1} + 1.6$

3)  $a_0 = 2000$   
 $a_n = 1.6a_{n-1}$

2)  $a_0 = 2000$   
 $a_n = a_{n-1} + 1.016$

(4)  $a_0 = 2000$   
 $a_n = 1.016a_{n-1}$

9. The values below represent the cost of an ice cream sundae with one through four toppings.

$$a_1 \ \$4.75 + .75 \ \$5.50 + .75 \ \$6.25 + .75 \ \$7.00$$

Write an explicit and recursive function that can be used to determine the cost of an ice cream cone with  $n$  toppings.

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

$$a_n = 4.75 + (n-1) \cdot .75$$

$$a_1 = 4.75$$

$$a_n = a_{n-1} + 4.75$$

$$a_1 = 4.75$$

$$d = .75$$

10. A theater with 15 rows has 10 seats in the first row, 12 seats in the second row, 14 seats in the third row, and so on. Write an explicit and recursive formula that can be used to determine the number of seats in the  $n$ th row of the theater.

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

$$a_n = 10 + (n-1)2$$

$$a_1 = 10$$

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

$$a_1 = 10$$

$$d = 2$$

11. Dana began an exercise program using a FitBit to measure her distance walked on her treadmill, in miles, per week. The following table shows her progress over three weeks.

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

$$a_n = 9(1.3)^{n-1}$$

| Week                                 | 1 | 2    | 3     |
|--------------------------------------|---|------|-------|
| Distance Walked on Treadmill (miles) | 9 | 11.7 | 15.21 |

$$\frac{11.7}{9} = 1.3$$

$$\frac{15.21}{11.7} = 1.3$$

$$a_1 = 9$$

$$a_n = 1.3 a_{n-1}$$

If she continues to progress in this manner, which of the listed statements could model the number of miles Dana walks on her treadmill,  $a_n$ , in terms of  $n$ , the number of weeks?

$$a_1 = 9$$

$$r = 1.3$$

1)  $a_n = 9(1.3)^n$  ~~X~~

2)  $a_n = 9 + 2.7(n-1)$  ~~X~~

3)  $a_1 = 9$   
 $a_n = 1.3 a_{n-1}$  ✓

4)  $a_1 = 9$   
 $a_n = 2.7 + a_{n-1}$  ~~X~~

12. The population of Jamesburg for the years 2010-2013, respectively, was reported as follows: 250,000 250,937 251,878 252,822

How can this sequence be recursively modeled?

1)  $j_n = 250,000(1.00375)^{n-1}$  ~~X~~

3)  $j_1 = 250,000$

$$j_n = 1.00375 j_{n-1}$$

4)  $j_1 = 250,000$

$$j_n = j_{n-1} + 937$$

$$\frac{250,937}{250,000} = 1.003748$$

$$\frac{251,878}{250,937} = 1.003749945$$

$$\frac{252,822}{251,878} = 1.003747846$$

all of them  $\approx 1.00375$

not recursive

2)  $j_n = 250,000 + 937(n-1)$

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

$$j_1 = 250,000$$

$$j_1 = 1.00375 j_{n-1}$$

$$a_1 = 250,000$$

$$r = 1.00375$$

13. The owners of an alligator farm in Florida started with 20 alligators the first month. The second month they had 30 alligators and the third month they had 45 alligators. Assuming this pattern continues, write an explicit and recursive formula to represent the number of alligators on the farm after  $n$  months.

$$\frac{30}{20} = 1.5$$

$$\frac{45}{30} = 1.5$$

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

$$a_n = 20(1.5)^{n-1}$$

$$a_1 = 20$$

$$a_n = 1.5a_{n-1}$$

$$a_1 = 20$$

$$r = 1.5$$

14. The average depreciation rate of a new boat is approximately 8% per year. If a new boat is purchased at a price of \$75,000, which model is a recursive formula representing the value of the boat  $n$  years after it was purchased?

1)  $a_n = 75,000(0.08)^n$

2)  $a_0 = 75,000$

$$a_n = (0.92)^n$$

~~3) not recursive~~  
 $a_n = 75,000(1.08)^n$

4)  $a_0 = 75,000$

$$a_n = 0.92(a_{n-1})$$

$$a_0 = 75,000$$

$$r = 0.92$$

15. In 2010, the population of New York State was approximately 19,378,000 with an annual growth rate of 1.5%. Assuming the growth rate is maintained for a large number of years, which equation can be used to predict the population of New York State  $t$  years after 2010?

1)  $P_t = 19,378,000(1.5)^t$

2)  $P_0 = 19,378,000$

$$P_t = 19,378,000 + 1.015P_{t-1}$$

3)  $P_t = 19,378,000(1.015)^{t-1}$

4)  $P_0 = 19,378,000$

$$P_t = 1.015P_{t-1}$$

$$a_n = a_0 (r)^n$$

$$a_n = 19,378,000(1.015)^n$$

$$a_0 = 19,378,000$$

$$a_n = 1.015a_{n-1}$$

$$a_0 = 19,378,000$$

$$r = 1.015$$

16. A bouncy ball rebounds to 90% of the height of its previous bounce. Craig drops a bouncy ball from a height of 20 feet above the ground. Write an explicit and recursive formula for the rebound height of a bouncy ball  $h_n$ .

$$a_n = a_0 (r)^n$$

$$h_n = 20(.9)^n$$

$$h_0 = 20$$

$$h_n = .9h_{n-1}$$

$$h_0 = 20$$

$$r = .9$$