

SOL 7.2—Arithmetic and Geometric Sequences

Determine the *common difference* or *common ratio* in each of the following sequences and write a variable expression that can be used to determine the next term in the sequence. Use “*n*” as the variable. Then write the next three terms in the sequence.

1. 3, -12, 48, -192, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_...

\_\_\_\_\_

2.  $-1, -\frac{1}{2}, 0, \frac{1}{2},$  \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_...

\_\_\_\_\_

3. -9, -18, -36, -72, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_...

\_\_\_\_\_

4. 1.9, 1.2, 0.5, -0.2, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_...

\_\_\_\_\_

5.  $\frac{3}{2}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{3}{8}, \frac{3}{16},$  \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, ...

\_\_\_\_\_

6. 2000, 200, 20, 2, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_...

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Complete the table and write a variable expression to describe the relationship using “*h*” as the variable.



Number of Hamburgers Purchased	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cost (\$)	6	9	12			

\_\_\_\_\_

8. A ball reaches a height of 144 inches on its first bounce. Each consecutive bounce is 4 inches less than the previous bounce. Write a variable expression to represent the situation and continue the sequence to name the next four terms. Use *b* as the variable.

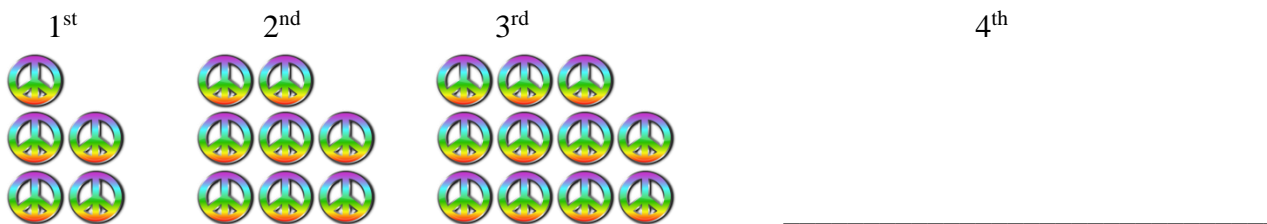
\_\_\_\_\_ 144, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

9. Apples are selling for \$1.29 per pound. Write a variable expression that can be used to determine the cost of “*n*” pounds of apples. Write a geometric sequence to represent the cost of 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 pounds of apples.



\_\_\_\_\_ 1.29, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

10. A pattern constructed of peace signs is shown. Sketch the next figure in the pattern. Name the common difference.



Common difference \_\_\_\_\_

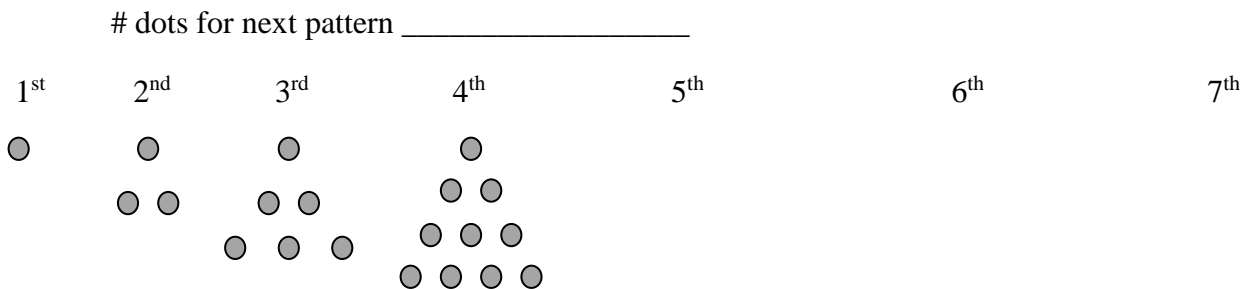
*Identify the following sequences as arithmetic, geometric, or neither.*

- 11. 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, ... \_\_\_\_\_
- 12. 3, 12, 48, 192, 768, ... \_\_\_\_\_
- 13. 1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, ... \_\_\_\_\_
- 14.  $4\frac{1}{2}$ , 5,  $5\frac{1}{2}$ , 6,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ , ... \_\_\_\_\_
- 15. -2, 3, -4, 5, -6, 7, ... \_\_\_\_\_
- 16. 10, 5, 2.5, 1.25, ... \_\_\_\_\_

*Give the next three terms for each of the following sequences:*

- 17. 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_
- 18. 6, 18, 54, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_
- 19. -6, -1, 4, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_
- 20. 1, -3, 9, -27, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

**Bonus: How many dots should there be in the next pattern in the sequence below? Sketch the next three patterns.**



\_\_\_\_\_

**Math SOL 7.2—Arithmetic and Geometric Sequences  
Answer Key**

1. 768; -3072; 12,288;  $-4n$

2.  $1; \frac{1}{2}; 1\frac{1}{2}; n + \frac{1}{2}$

3. -144, -288, -576 ;  $2n$

4. -0.9, -1.6, -2.3 ;  $n + (-7.0)$

5.  $\frac{3}{32}, \frac{3}{64}, \frac{3}{128}; \frac{1}{2}n$

6. 0.2, 0.02, 0.002 ;  $\frac{1}{10}n$

7. 15, 18, 21 ;  $3h$

8.  $b + (-4)$  ; 140, 136, 132, 128

9.  $1.29n$  ; 2.58, 3.87, 5.16, 6.4

10.



Common difference +3

11. Arithmetic

12. Geometric

13. Neither

14. Arithmetic

15. Neither

16. Geometric

17. 25, 29, 33

18. 162, 486, 729

19. 9, 14, 19

20. 81, -243, 729