

9-5 Reteaching

Geometric Series

- The **sum of a finite geometric series** is $S_n = \frac{a_1(1 - r^n)}{1 - r}$, where a_1 is the first term, r is the common ratio, and n is the number of terms.
- The **sum of an infinite geometric series** with $|r| < 1$ is $S = \frac{a_1}{1 - r}$, where a_1 is the first term and r is the common ratio. If $|r| \geq 1$, then the series has no sum.

Problem

What is the sum of the first ten terms of the geometric series

$$8 + 16 + 32 + 64 + 128 + \dots ?$$

$$a_1 = 8$$

a_1 is the first term in the series.

$$r = \frac{16}{8} = \frac{32}{16} = \frac{64}{32} = \frac{128}{64} = 2$$

Simplify the ratio formed by any two consecutive terms to find r .

$$n = 10$$

n is the number of terms in the series to be added together.

$$S_{10} = \frac{8(1 - 2^{10})}{1 - 2}$$

Substitute $a_1 = 8$, $r = 2$, and $n = 10$ into the formula for the sum of a finite geometric series.

$$= \frac{8(-1023)}{-1}$$

Simplify inside the parentheses.

$$= 8184$$

Simplify.

Exercises

Evaluate the finite series for the specified number of terms.

1. $3 + 12 + 48 + 192 + \dots$; $n = 6$ **4095**

2. $8 + 2 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots$; $n = 5$ **$\frac{341}{32}$**

3. $-10 - 5 - 2.5 - 1.25 - \dots$; $n = 7$ **$-\frac{635}{32}$**

4. $10 + (-5) + \frac{5}{2} + \left(-\frac{5}{4}\right) + \dots$; $n = 11$ **$\frac{3415}{512}$**

Evaluate each infinite geometric series.

5. $10 + 5 + 2.5 + \dots$ **20**

6. $-1 + \frac{2}{11} - \frac{4}{121} + \dots$ **$-\frac{11}{13}$**

7. $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{7}{32} + \frac{49}{256} + \dots$ **2**

8. $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{5} + \frac{2}{25} - \dots$ **$\frac{5}{14}$**

9. $-\frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{12} - \frac{1}{24} + \dots$ **$-\frac{1}{9}$**

10. $20 + 16 + \frac{64}{5} + \dots$ **100**

11. $12 + 4 + \frac{4}{3} + \dots$ **18**

12. $\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{16} - \dots$ **$\frac{1}{6}$**

13. $\frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{15} + \frac{2}{75} + \dots$ **$\frac{5}{6}$**

9-5 Reteaching (continued)

Geometric Series

Problem

Your neighbor hosts a family reunion every year. In 2000, it costs \$1500 to host the reunion. Their expenses have decreased by 10% per year by asking family members to contribute food and party supplies.

- What is a rule for the cost of the family reunion?
- What was the cost of the reunion in 2005?
- What was the total cost for hosting the family reunions from 2000 to 2009?

The cost is a geometric sequence that decreases by the same percent each year.

$$a_n = ar^{n-1} \quad \text{Write the explicit formula.}$$

$$a_n = (1500)(0.90)^{n-1} \quad \text{Substitute } a_1 = 1500, r = 1 - 0.10 = 0.90 \text{ in the explicit formula.}$$

To find the cost of the reunion in 2005 ($n = 6$), substitute values into the explicit formula.

$$a_n = ar^{n-1} \quad \text{Write the explicit formula.}$$

$$a_n = (1500)(0.90)^{6-1} \quad \text{Substitute } a_1 = 1500, r = 0.90, n = 6 \text{ in the formula.}$$

$$a_n \approx 886 \quad \text{Simplify.}$$

The cost of hosting the reunion in 2005 was \$886.

To find the total of hosting the reunions from 2000 to 2009, $\sum_{n=1}^{10} (1500)(0.90)^{n-1}$, find the sum of the geometric series.

$$S_n = \frac{a_1(1 - r^n)}{1 - r} \quad \text{Write the formula for the sum of a geometric series.}$$

$$S_{10} = \frac{1500(1 - 0.90^{10})}{1 - 0.90} \quad \text{Substitute } a_1 = 1500, r = 0.90, n = 10 \text{ in the formula.}$$

$$S_{10} \approx 9770 \quad \text{Simplify.}$$

The cost of hosting the reunions from 2000 to 2009 was \$9770.

Exercise

14. In 1990, a vacation package cost \$400. The cost has increased 10% per year.
- What are the values of a_1 and r ? $a_1 = 400, r = 1.1$
 - What is a rule for the cost of the vacation? $a_n = (400)(1.10)^{n-1}$
 - What was cost of the vacation in 1995? $\$644.20$
 - What was the total cost of the vacations from 1990 to 1999? $\$6374.97$
 - If the pattern continued until 2009, what was the total cost of the vacations? $\$22,910$