

Example - 1 Write the first five terms of the sequence defined by $a_n = (-1)^{n-1} \cdot 2^n$

Sol: We have, $a_n = (-1)^{n-1} \cdot 2^n$

Putting $n = 1, 2, 3, 4,$ and $5,$ we get

$$a_1 = (-1)^{1-1} \times 2^1 = (-1)^0 \times 2 = 2$$

$$a_2 = (-1)^{2-1} \times 2^2 = (-1)^1 \times 4 = -4$$

$$a_3 = (-1)^{3-1} \times 2^3 = (-1)^2 \times 8 = 8$$

$$a_4 = (-1)^{4-1} \times 2^4 = (-1)^3 \times 16 = -16.$$

and $a_5 = (-1)^{5-1} \times 2^5 = (-1)^4 \times 32 = 32$

Example - 2 What is 18th term of the sequence defined by $a_n = \frac{n(n-3)}{n+4}$

Sol: We have, $a_n = \frac{n(n-3)}{n+4}$

Putting $n = 18,$ we get

$$a_{18} = \frac{18 \times (18-3)}{18+4} = \frac{18 \times 15}{22} = \frac{135}{11}$$

Example - 3 Show that the sequence defined by $a_n = 4n + 5$ is an A.P. Also, find its common difference.

Sol: We have, $a_n = 4n + 5$

Replacing n by $(n+1),$ we get

$$a_{n+1} = 4(n+1) + 5 = 4n + 9$$

Now, $a_{n+1} - a_n = (4n + 9) - (4n + 5) = 4$

Clearly, $a_{n+1} - a_n$ is independent of n and is equal to $4.$

So, the given sequence is an A.P. with common difference $4.$

Example - 4 Write an A.P. whose first term is 10 and common difference is $3.$

Sol: We know that if a is the first term and d is the common difference, then the arithmetic progression is

$$a, a + d, a + 2d, a + 3d, \dots$$

Here, $a = 10$ and $d = 3.$

So, the arithmetic progression is $10, 13, 16, 19, 22, \dots$

Example - 5 Write an A.P. having 4 as the first term and -3 as the common difference.

Sol: The arithmetic progression with first term a and common difference d is given by

$$a, a + d, a + 2d, a + 3d, \dots$$

i.e., each term is obtained by adding ' d ' to the preceding term.

Here, $a = 4$ and $d = -3$.

So, the arithmetic progression is

$$4, 4 + (-3), 4 + 2 \times (-3), 4 + 3 \times (-3), 4 + 4 \times (-3), \dots$$

or, $4, 1, -2, -5, -8, \dots$

Example - 6 Find the 12th, 24th and n th term of the A.P. given by 9, 13, 17, 21, 25,

Sol: We have, $a =$ First term = 9

and, $d =$ Common difference = 4 [$\because 13 - 9 = 4, 17 - 13 = 4, 21 - 17 = 4$ etc.] We know

that the n th term of an A.P. with first term a and common difference d is given by

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

$$\therefore a_{12} = a + (12 - 1)d = a + 11d = 9 + 11 \times 4 = 53$$

$$a_{24} = a + (24 - 1)d = a + 23d = 9 + 23 \times 4 = 101$$

$$\text{and, } a_n = a + (n - 1)d = 9 + (n - 1) \times 4 = 4n + 5$$

Thus, we have

$$a_{12} = 53, a_{24} = 101 \text{ and } a_n = 4n + 5$$

Example - 7 Show that the sequence 9, 12, 15, 18, ... is an A.P. Find its 16th term and the general term.

Sol: We have,

$$(12 - 9) = (15 - 12) = (18 - 15) = 3$$

Therefore, the given sequence is an A.P. with common difference 3.

$$a = \text{First term} = 9$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore 16\text{th term} &= a_{16} = a + (16-1)d = a + 15d && [\because a_n = a + (n-1)d] \\ \Rightarrow a_{16} &= 9 + 15 \times 3 = 54 \\ \therefore \text{General term} &= n\text{th term} = a + (n-1)d \\ \therefore a_n &= 9 + (n-1) \times 3 = 3n + 6 \end{aligned}$$

Example - 8 Which term of the sequence 4, 9, 14, 19, ... is 124 ?

Sol : Clearly, the given sequence is an A.P. with first term a (=4) and common difference d (=5)

Let 124 be the n th term of the given sequence. Then,

$$a_n = 124 \Rightarrow a + (n-1)d = 124 \Rightarrow 4 + (n-1) \times 5 = 124 \Rightarrow 5n - 1 = 124 \Rightarrow 5n = 125 \Rightarrow n = 25$$

Hence, 25th term of the given sequence is 124.

Example - 9 How many terms are there in the sequence 3, 6, 9, 12, ..., 111 ?

Sol : Clearly, the given sequence is an A.P. with first term a =3 and common difference d = 3. Let there be n terms in the given sequence. Then,

$$n\text{th term} = 111$$

$$\Rightarrow a + (n-1)d = 111$$

$$\Rightarrow 3 + (n-1) \times 3 = 111 \Rightarrow n = 37$$

Thus, the given sequence contains 37 terms.

Example - 10 Find the middle term (s) of the A.P. 7, 13, 19, ..., 241.

Sol : Clearly, 7, 13, 19, ..., 241 is an A.P. with first term a = 7 and common difference d = 6. Let there be n terms in the A.P. Then,

$$a_n = 241$$

$$\Rightarrow a + (n-1)d = 241$$

$$\Rightarrow 7 + 6(n-1) = 241$$

$$\Rightarrow 6n = 240 \Rightarrow n = 40$$

Clearly, n is even. So, $\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^{\text{th}}$ = 20th and $\left(\frac{n}{2} + 1\right)^{\text{th}}$ = 21th are middle terms and are given by

$$a_{20} = a + (20 - 1)d = a + 19d = 7 + 19 \times 6 = 121$$

and $a_{21} = a + (21 - 1)d = a + 20d = 7 + 20 \times 6 = 127$

Example - 11 If the 8th term of an A.P. is 31 and the 15th term is 16 more than the 11th term, find the A.P.

Sol: Let a be the first term and d be the common difference of the A.P.

We have,

$$a_8 = 31 \text{ and } a_{15} = 16 + a_{11}$$

$$\Rightarrow a + 7d = 31 \text{ and } a + 14d = 16 + a + 10d$$

$$\Rightarrow a + 7d = 31 \text{ and } 4d = 16$$

$$\Rightarrow a + 7d = 31 \text{ and } d = 4$$

$$\Rightarrow a + 7 \times 4 = 31 \Rightarrow a + 28 = 31 \Rightarrow a = 3$$

Hence, the A.P. is $a, a+d, a+2d, a+3d, \dots$ i.e., 3, 7, 11, 15, 19, ...

Example - 12 Which term of the arithmetic progression 5, 15, 25, ... will be 130 more than its 31st term?

Sol: We have, $a = 5$ and $d = 10$

$$\therefore a_{31} = a + 30d = 5 + 30 \times 10 = 305$$

Let n^{th} term of the given A.P. be 130 more than its 31st term. Then,

$$a_n = 130 + a_{31}$$

$$\therefore a + (n - 1)d = 130 + 305$$

$$\Rightarrow 5 + 10(n - 1) = 435$$

$$\Rightarrow 10(n - 1) = 430$$

$$\Rightarrow n - 1 = 43$$

$$\Rightarrow n = 44$$

Hence, 44th term of the given A.P. is 130 more than its 31st term.

Example - 13 Is 184 a term of the sequence 3, 7, 11,?

Sol: Clearly, the given sequence is an A.P. with first term $a (=3)$ and common difference $d (=4)$.

Let the n th term of the given sequence be 184. Then,

$$a_n = 184$$

$$\Rightarrow a + (n-1)d = 184$$

$$\Rightarrow 3 + (n-1) \times 4 = 184 \Rightarrow 4n = 185 \Rightarrow n = 46\frac{1}{4}$$

Since n is not a natural number. So, 184 is not a term of the given sequence.

Example - 14 If five times the fifth term of an A.P. is equal to 8 times its eighth term, show that its 13th term is zero.

Sol: Let $a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n, \dots$ be the A.P. with its first term a and common difference d . It is given that

$$5a_5 = 8a_8$$

$$\Rightarrow 5(a + 4d) = 8(a + 7d)$$

$$\Rightarrow 5a + 20d = 8a + 56d$$

$$\Rightarrow 3a + 36d = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 3(a + 12d) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a + 12d = 0 \Rightarrow a + (13-1)d = 0 \Rightarrow a_{13} = 0$$

Hence, 13th term is zero.

Example - 15 If the m th term of an A.P. be $1/n$ and n th term be $1/m$, then show that its (mn) th term is 1.

Sol: Let a and d be the first term and common difference respectively of the given A.P. Then.

$$\frac{1}{n} = m \text{ th term} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{n} = a + (m-1)d$$

$$\frac{1}{m} = n \text{ th term} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{m} = a + (n-1)d$$

On subtracting equation (ii) from equation (i), we get

$$\frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{m} = (m-n)d \Rightarrow \frac{m-n}{mn} = (m-n)d \Rightarrow d = \frac{1}{m}$$

Putting $d = \frac{1}{mn}$ in equation (i), we get

$$\frac{1}{n} = a + \frac{(m-1)}{mn} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{n} = a + \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{mn} \Rightarrow a = \frac{1}{mn}$$

$$\therefore (mn)\text{th term} = a + (mn-1)d = \frac{1}{mn} + (mn-1)\frac{1}{mn} = 1 \quad \left[\because a = \frac{1}{mn} = d \right]$$

Example - 16 The sum of three numbers in A.P. is -3, and their product is 8. Find the numbers.

Sol: Let the numbers be $(a-d)$, a , $(a+d)$. It is given that the sum of the numbers is -3.

$$\therefore (a-d) + a + (a+d) = -3 \Rightarrow 3a = -3 \Rightarrow a = -1$$

It is also given that the product of the product of the numbers is 8.

$$\therefore (a-d)(a)(a+d) = 8$$

$$\Rightarrow a(a^2 - d^2) = 8$$

$$\Rightarrow (-1)(1 - d^2) = 8$$

$$[\because a = -1]$$

$$\Rightarrow d^2 = 9 \Rightarrow d = \pm 3$$

If $d = 3$, the numbers are -4, -1, 2. If $d = -3$, the numbers are 2, -1, -4.

Thus, the numbers are -4, -1, 2, or 2, -1, -4.

Example - 17 Find four numbers in A.P. whose sum is 20 and the sum of whose squares is 120.

Sol: Let the numbers be $(a-3d)$, $(a-d)$, $(a+d)$, $(a+3d)$. Then,

$$\text{Sum of numbers} = 20$$

$$\Rightarrow (a-3d) + (a-d) + (a+d) + (a+3d) = 20 \Rightarrow 4a = 20 \Rightarrow a = 5$$

It is given that, sum of the squares = 120

$$\Rightarrow (a-3d)^2 + (a-d)^2 + (a+d)^2 + (a+3d)^2 = 120$$

$$\Rightarrow 4a^2 + 20d^2 = 120$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2 + 5d^2 = 30$$

$$\Rightarrow 25 + 5d^2 = 30$$

$$\Rightarrow 5d^2 = 5 \Rightarrow d = \pm 1$$

If $d = 1$, then the numbers are 2, 4, 6, 8. If $d = -1$, then the numbers are 8, 6, 4, 2.

Thus, the numbers are 2, 4, 6, 8 or 8, 6, 4, 2.

Example - 18 Divide 32 into four parts which are in A.P. such that the product of extremes is to the product of means is 7:15.

Sol : Let the four parts be $(a - 3d), (a - d), (a + d)$ and $(a + 3d)$. Then,

$$\text{Sum of the numbers} = 32$$

$$\Rightarrow (a - 3d) + (a - d) + (a + d) + (a + 3d) = 32 \Rightarrow 4a = 32 \Rightarrow a = 8$$

It is given that

$$\frac{(a - 3d)(a + 3d)}{(a - d)(a + d)} = \frac{7}{15}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{a^2 - 9d^2}{a^2 - d^2} = \frac{7}{15}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{64 - 9d^2}{64 - d^2} = \frac{7}{15} \Rightarrow 128d^2 = 512 \Rightarrow d^2 = 4 \Rightarrow d = \pm 2$$

Thus, the four parts are $a - 3d, a - d, a + d$ and $a + 3d$ i.e., 2, 6, 10, 14.

Example - 19 Determine k so that $k^2 + 4k + 8, 2k^2 + 3k + 6, 3k^2 + 4k + 4$ are three consecutive terms of an A.P.

Sol : We now that if a, b, c are three consecutive terms of an A.P., then

$$b - a = c - b \text{ i.e. } 2b = a + c$$

Thus, if $k^2 + 4k + 8, 2k^2 + 3k + 6$ and $3k^2 + 4k + 4$ are three consecutive terms of an A.P. then

$$2(2k^2 + 3k + 6) = (k^2 + 4k + 8) + (3k^2 + 4k + 4)$$

$$\Rightarrow 4k^2 + 6k + 12 = 4k^2 + 8k + 12$$

$$\Rightarrow 2k = 0 \Rightarrow k = 0.$$

Example - 20 Find the sum of 20 terms of the A.P. 1, 4, 7, 10 ...

Sol: Let a be the first term and d be the common difference of the given A.P. Then, we have

$$a = 1 \text{ and } d = 3.$$

We have to find the sum of 20 terms of the given A.P.

Putting $a = 1, d = 3, n = 20$ in $S_n = \frac{n}{2}\{2a + (n-1)d\}$, we get

$$S_{20} = \frac{20}{2}\{2 \times 1 + (20-1) \times 3\} = 10 \times 59 = 590$$

Example - 21 Find the sum of first 30 terms of an A.P. whose second term is 2 and seventh term is 22.

Sol: Let a be the first term and d be the common difference of the given A.P. Then,

$$a_2 = 2 \text{ and } a_7 = 22$$

$$\Rightarrow a + d = 2 \text{ and } a + 6d = 22$$

Solving these two equations, we get $a = -2$ and $d = 4$. Putting $n = 30, a = -2$ and $d = 4$ in

$$S_n = \frac{n}{2}\{2a + (n-1)d\}, \text{ we obtain}$$

$$\therefore S_{30} = \frac{30}{2}\{2 \times (-2) + (30-1) \times 4\}$$

$$\Rightarrow S_{30} = 15(-4 + 116) = 15 \times 112 = 1680$$

Hence, the sum of first 30 terms is 1680.

Example - 22 Find the sum of all natural numbers between 250 and 1000 which are exactly divisible by 3.

Sol: Clearly, the numbers between 250 and 1000 which are divisible by 3 are 252, 255, 258, ..., 999. This is an A.P. with first term $a = 252$, Common difference = 3 and last term = 999. Let there be n terms in this A.P. then,

$$a_n = 999$$

$$\Rightarrow a + (n-1)d = 999$$

$$\Rightarrow 252 + (n-1) \times 3 = 999$$

$$\Rightarrow n = 250$$

$$\therefore \text{Required sum} = S_n = \frac{n}{2}(a+l) = \frac{250}{2}(252+999) = 156375$$

Example - 23 If the sum of m terms of an A.P. is the same as the sum of its n terms, show that the sum of its $(m+n)$ terms is zero.

Sol: Let a be the first term and d be the common difference of the given A.P. Then, $S_m = S_n$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{m}{n}\{2a + (m-1)d\} = \frac{n}{2}\{2a + (n-1)d\}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2a(m-n) + \{m(m-1) - n(n-1)\}d = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2a(m-n) + \{m^2 - n^2\} - (m-n)d = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (m-n)\{2a + (m+n-1)d\} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2a + (m+n-1)d = 0 \quad [\because m-n \neq 0]$$

Now,

$$S_{m+n} = \frac{m+n}{2}\{2a + (m+n-1)d\} = \frac{m+n}{2} \times 0 = 0$$

Example - 24 The ratio of the sum of n terms of two A.P.'s is $(7n+1) : (4n+27)$. Find the ratio of their m^{th} terms.

Sol: Let a_1, a_2 be the first terms and d_1, d_2 the common differences of the two given A.P.'s. Then, the sums of their n terms are given by

$$S_n = \frac{n}{2}\{2a_1 + (n-1)d_1\} \text{ and } S_n' = \frac{n}{2}\{2a_2 + (n-1)d_2\}$$

$$\therefore \frac{S_n}{S_n'} = \frac{\frac{n}{2}\{2a_1 + (n-1)d_1\}}{\frac{n}{2}\{2a_2 + (n-1)d_2\}} = \frac{2a_1 + (n-1)d_1}{2a_2 + (n-1)d_2}$$

It is given that

$$\frac{S_n}{S_n'} = \frac{7n+1}{4n+27}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2a_1 + (n-1)d_1}{2a_2 + (n-1)d_2} = \frac{7n+1}{4n+27}$$

To find the ratio of the m^{th} terms of the two given A.P.'s, we replace n by $(2m-1)$ in equation (i).

Replacing n by $(2m-1)$ in equation (i), we get

$$\therefore \frac{2a_1 + (2m-2)d_1}{2a_2 + (2m-2)d_2} = \frac{7(2m-1)+1}{4(2m-1)+27}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{a_1 + (m-1)d_1}{a_2 + (m-1)d_2} = \frac{14m-6}{8m+23}$$

Hence, the ratio of the m^{th} terms of the two A.P.'s is $(14m-6) : (8m+23)$.

Example - 25 The ratio of the sums of m and n terms of an A.P. is $m^2 : n^2$. Show that the ratio of the m^{th} and n^{th} terms is $(2m-1) : (2n-1)$.

Sol: Let a be the first term and d the common difference of the given A.P. Then, the sums of m and n terms are given by

$$S_m = \frac{m}{2}\{2a + (m-1)d\} \text{ and, } S_n = \frac{n}{2}\{2a + (n-1)d\} \text{ respectively.}$$

Then,

$$\frac{S_m}{S_n} = \frac{m^2}{n^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\frac{m}{2}\{2a + (m-1)d\}}{\frac{n}{2}\{2a + (n-1)d\}} = \frac{m^2}{n^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2a + (m-1)d}{2a + (n-1)d} = \frac{m}{n}$$

$$\Rightarrow \{2a + (m-1)d\}n = \{2a + (n-1)d\}m$$

$$\Rightarrow 2a(n-m) = d(n-m)$$

$$\Rightarrow d = 2a$$

$$\therefore \frac{T_m}{T_n} = \frac{a + (m-1)d}{a + (n-1)d} = \frac{a + (m-1)2a}{a + (n-1)2a} = \frac{2m-1}{2n-1}$$

Example - 26 Solve the equation : $1+4+7+10+\dots+x = 287$.

Sol : Here, 1, 4, 7, 10, ... x, is an A.P. with first term $a=1$ and common difference $d = 3$. Let there be n terms in the A.P. Then, $x = n^{\text{th}} \text{ term} \Rightarrow x = 1 + (n-1) \times 3 = 3n - 2$

Now,

$$1 + 4 + 7 + 10 + \dots + x = 287$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n}{2}(1+x) = 287 \quad \left[\text{Using } S_n = \frac{n}{2}(a+l) \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n}{2}(1+3n-2) = 287$$

$$\Rightarrow 3n^2 - n = 574 \Rightarrow 3n^2 - n - 574 = 0 \Rightarrow 3n^2 - 42n + 41n - 574 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 3n(n-14) + 41(n-14) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (n-14)(3n+41) = 0 \Rightarrow n-14 = 0 \quad [\because 3n+41 \neq 0]$$

$$\Rightarrow n = 14$$

Putting $n = 14$ in (i), we get $x = 3 \times 14 - 2 = 40$.

Example - 27 A man repays a long of ₹3250 by paying ₹ 20 in the first month and then increases the payment by ₹15 every month. How long will it take him to clear the loan ?

Sol : Suppose the loan is cleared in n months. Clearly, the amounts form an A.P. with first term 20 and the common difference 15.

\therefore Sum of the amounts = 3250

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n}{2}\{2 \times 20 + (n-1) \times 15\} = 3250$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n}{2}(40 + 15n - 15) = 3250$$

$$\Rightarrow n(15n + 25) = 6500$$

$$\Rightarrow 15n^2 + 25n - 6500 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 3n^2 + 5n - 1300 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (n-20)(3n+65) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow n = 20 \text{ or, } n = -\frac{65}{3} \Rightarrow n = 20 \quad \left[\because n \neq -\frac{65}{3} \right]$$

Thus, the loan is cleared in 20 months.