1.2 Sequences & Series

Question Paper

Course	DP IB Maths
Section	1. Number & Algebra
Topic	1.2 Sequences & Series
Difficulty	Medium

To be used by all students preparing for DP IB Maths AI SL
Students of other boards may also find this useful

Question 1a

The second term, u_2, of a geometric sequence is 44 and the third term, u_3, is 55.

Find the common ratio, r, of the sequence.

[2 marks]

Question 1b

Find the first term of the sequence, u_1.

[2 marks]

Question 1c

Find S_5, the sum of the first 5 terms of the sequence.

[2 marks]

Question 2a

The sum of the first 16 terms of an arithmetic sequence is 920.

Find the common difference, d, of the sequence if the first term is 27.5.

[3 marks]

Question 2b

Find the first term of the sequence if the common difference, d, is 11.

[3 marks]

Question 3a

The sum of the first 5 terms of a geometric sequence is 461.12.

Find the common ratio, r, of the sequence if the first term is 200, given that $r > 0$.

[3 marks]

Question 3b

Find the first term of the sequence if the common ratio, r, is -2.

Give your answer correct to 2 decimal places.

[3 marks]

Question 4a

The table below shows information about the terms of four different sequences a_n, b_n, c_n and d_n.

	$n = 1$	$n = 2$	$n = 3$	$n = 4$
a_n		12	30	
b_n		12	30	
c_n	80			10
d_n	80			10

Calculate a_1, a_4 and the common difference, d, given that a_n is an arithmetic sequence.

[2 marks]

Question 4b

Calculate b_1, b_4 and the common ratio, r, given that b_n is a geometric sequence.

[2 marks]

Question 4c

Calculate c_2, c_3 and the common difference, d, given that c_n is an arithmetic sequence.

[2 marks]

Question 4d

Calculate d_2, d_3 and the common ratio, r, given that d_n is a geometric sequence.

[2 marks]

Question 5a

Students are arranged for a graduation photograph in rows which follows an arithmetic sequence. There are 20 students in the fourth row and 44 in the 10^{th} row.

(i)
Find the common difference, d, of the arithmetic sequence.

(ii)
Find the first term of the arithmetic sequence.

[3 marks]

Question 5b

Given there are 20 rows of students in the photograph, calculate how many students there are altogether

[3 marks]

Question 6a

Marie is an athlete returning to running after an injury and wants to manage the number of kilometres she runs per week. She decides to run 4 km the first week and increase this by 1.5 km each week.

Find the distance Marie ran in the 10^{th} week.

[2 marks]

Question 6b

Find the week in which Marie runs 26.5 km.

[3 marks]

Question 6c

Marie's coach says she can start preparing for her next race once she has run a total of 220 km.

Find the week in which Marie will complete this.

[3 marks]

Question 7a

The eighth term, u_8, of an arithmetic sequence is 18 and the common difference, d, is 2.

(i)
Find the first term of the arithmetic sequence.

(ii)
Find the value of u_{17}.

[4 marks]

Question 7b

The first and 17th terms of the arithmetic sequence are the third and fifth terms respectively of a geometric sequence.

(i)
Find the possible values for the common ratio, r, of the geometric sequence.

(ii)
Find the first term of the geometric sequence.

[4 marks]

Question 8a

In a geometric sequence, $u_3 = 160$ and the common ratio, r, is $\frac{1}{4}$.

(i)
Find the first term, u_1.

(ii)
Find u_6.

[4 marks]

Question 8b

The first and third terms of the geometric sequence are the seventh and ninth terms respectively of an arithmetic sequence.

(i)
Find the common difference, d, of the arithmetic sequence.

(ii)
Find the first term of the arithmetic sequence.

[4 marks]

Question 9a

A sequence can be defined by $a_n = 32 - 7n$, for $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$.

Write an expression for $a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \cdots + a_{12}$ using sigma notation and find the value of the sum.

[3 marks]

Question 9b

Write an expression for $a_4 + a_5 + a_6 + \cdots + a_{15}$ using sigma notation and find the value of the sum.

[3 marks]

Question 10a

A sequence can be defined by $g_n = 4 \times 3^{n-1}$, for $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$.

Write an expression for $g_1 + g_2 + g_3 + \cdots + g_{10}$ using sigma notation and find the value of the sum.

[3 marks]

Question 10b

Write an expression for $g_8 + g_9 + g_10 + \cdots + g_{18}$ using sigma notation and find the value of the sum.

[3 marks]

Question 11a

The kiwi is a flightless bird and is a national treasure in New Zealand. At the start of 2021 there were approximately 68 000 kiwi left, with the population decreasing by 2% every year.

Find the expected population size of kiwis in 2030 assuming the rate of decrease in kiwi population remains the same.

[3 marks]

Question 11b

Find the year in which the population of kiwis falls below 50 000 assuming the rate of decrease in kiwi population remains the same.

[3 marks]

Question 12a

Aaron is working on his cycling in preparation for a triathlon event in 10 months. He cycles a total of 240 km in the first month and plans to increase this by 12.5% each month.

Find the distance Aaron cycles in the fifth month of preparation.

[3 marks]

Question 12b

Calculate the total distance Aaron cycles until the triathlon.

[3 marks]

Question 13a

A geometric sequence has $u_1 = 0.5$ and $r = 3$.

Find

(i)

u_4

(ii)

S_5.

[2 marks]

Question 13b

An arithmetic sequence has the same u_4 and S_5 as the geometric sequence above.

Find u_1 and d for the arithmetic sequence.

[4 marks]