

Unit 1 Objective 2 Remediation

Using Differences to Identify Patterns

Extending a sequence by using constant differences.

Directions:

- To find the first differences, subtract each term from the next term.

-If the differences are not constant, meaning the same, use those differences and add or subtract to continue the sequence.

Example: Find the next two terms in the sequence below.

2, 5, 9, 14, 20,

Find the 1st difference

2 5 9 14 20

+3 +4 +5 +6

Since the 1st differences are not constant, find the 2nd

2 5 9 14 20

+3 +4 +5 +6

+1 +1 +1

The 2nd differences are a constant 1. Use the constant 2nd difference to extend the sequence of 1st differences.

2 5 9 14 20 **27 35**

+3 +4 +5 +6 +7 +8

+1 +1 +1 +1 +1 +1

So the 5th and 6th terms are 27 and 35.

Find the next two terms in each sequence using constant differences. Show your work.

1) 5, 8, 12, 17, 23, 2) 5, 13, 21, 29, 37, _____

3) 38, 29, 21, 14, 4) 23, 22, 20, 17, 13, _____

5) 8, 16, 24, 32, 40, 6) 100, 97, 94, 91, 88, ... _____

7) 30, 31, 35, 42, 52, _____ 8) 1, 4, 9, 16, 25, _____

9) 12, 0, -12, -24, -36, _____ 10) -3, -8, -13, -18, -23, .. _____

11) -1, 1, 7, 17, 31, _____ 12) 4, 3, 0, -5, -12 _____

13) The fourth and fifth terms of a sequence are 39 and 54. The second differences are a constant 3. What are the first three terms of the sequence?

14) The first term of a sequence is 8. The first of the first differences is 3. The second differences are a constant 1. What are the first five terms of the sequence?

15) 62, 57, 52, 47, 42, ... _____ 16) 31, 38, 45, 52, 59, _____

17) 18, 29, 42, 57, 74, ... _____ 18) 33, 51, 73, 99, 129, _____

19) 25.5, 24, 21.5, 18, 13.5, .. _____ 20) 51, 54, 61, 72, 87, _____

21) The second differences of a sequence are a constant 2. The first of the first differences is 5 and the first term is 9. Find the first five terms of the sequence.