

■ C. Answer the following. (11 points each)

[1] The last term of the sequence given by $a_n = n^2 - 18n$ is 40. How many terms are there?

$$a_n = n^2 - 18n = 40$$

$$n^2 - 18n - 40 = 0$$

$$(n - 20)(n + 2) = 0$$

$$n = 20$$

∴ there are 20 terms.

[2] The sum of the first n terms of a sequence is given by $S_n = 3n^2 + n$. Find S_6 .

$$S_6 = 3(6)^2 + 6$$

$$= 3 \cdot 36 + 6$$

$$= 114$$

$$\therefore S_6 = 114$$

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[3] In an arithmetic sequence, the 5th term is 22 and the 10th term is 47. Find the 16th term.

$$a_n = a_1 + (n-1)d$$

$$\begin{cases} a_5 = a_1 + 4d = 22 \\ a_{10} = a_1 + 9d = 47 \end{cases}$$

$$(a_{10} - a_5) \Rightarrow 5d = 25$$

$$\boxed{d = 5}$$

$$a_1 + 20 = 22$$

$$\boxed{a_1 = 2}$$

$$a_n = 2 + (n-1)5$$

$$a_{16} = 2 + 15 \cdot 5$$

$$= 77$$

[4] In an arithmetic sequence, the sum of the first 10 terms is 155 and the sum of the first 15 terms is 190. Find the 6th term.

$$S_{10} = \frac{10}{2}(2a + 9d) = 155$$

$$S_{15} = \frac{15}{2}(2a + 14d) = 190$$

$$10a + 45d = 155$$

$$15a + 105d = 190$$

$$\Rightarrow 2a + 9d = 31$$

$$3a + 21d = 38$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 6a + 27d = 93 \\ 6a + 42d = 76 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow 15d = -17 \Rightarrow \boxed{d = -\frac{17}{15}}$$

$$\frac{15}{2} \left(2a - \frac{14 \cdot 17}{15} \right) = 190 \Rightarrow 15a - 119 = 190 \Rightarrow 15a = 309 \Rightarrow \boxed{a = \frac{103}{5}}$$

$$a_6 = \frac{103}{5} + 5 \left(-\frac{17}{15} \right) = \frac{103}{5} - \frac{17}{3} = \frac{309}{15} - \frac{85}{15} = \frac{224}{15}$$

$$\therefore A_6 = \frac{224}{15}$$

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[5] In a certain geometric sequence, each term is positive, the 3rd term is 18 and the 5th term is 162. Find the 8th term.

$$\begin{aligned} a_3 = ar^2 = 18 \\ a_5 = ar^4 = 162 \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \frac{162}{18} = \frac{ar^4}{ar^2} \Rightarrow r^2 = 9 \Rightarrow \boxed{r = 3}$$

and $9a = 18 \Rightarrow \boxed{a = 2}$

$$a_n = 2 \cdot 3^{n-1}$$

$$\boxed{a_8 = 2 \cdot 3^7} = 4374$$

[6] Find the least number of terms of the geometric sequence 4, 8, 16, 32, ... which must be taken for their sum to exceed 500.

$$S_n = a \frac{1-r^n}{1-r} \quad \cdot \quad 4, 8, 16, 32, \dots \Rightarrow a_n = 4 \cdot 2^{n-1}$$

$$S_n = 4 \frac{1-2^n}{1-2} = -4(1-2^n)$$

$$\$ S_n > 500$$

$$4 \left(\frac{1-2^n}{1-2} \right) > 500$$

$$-4(1-2^n) > 500$$

$$4(2^n - 1) > 500$$

$$2^n - 1 > 125$$

$$2^n > 126$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{n = 7}$$

Finding the first term that exceeds 500 is minus 4 pts. It misses the whole distinction of sequence and series (seq. of partial sums).

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[7] Find the general term of the sequence 3, 12, 27, 48, 75, 108, 147, 192,

$$\{a_n\} \quad 3, 12, 27, 48, 75, 108, \dots$$

$$\{b_n\} \quad 9, 15, 21, 27, 33, \dots$$

$$\{c_n\} \quad 6, 6, 6, 6, \dots$$

$$b_n = 9 + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} 6 = 9 + 6(n-1) = 9 + 6n - 6 = \boxed{6n + 3}$$

$$a_n = 3 + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} (6k + 3) = 3 + \frac{6}{2} [(n-1)n] + 3(n-1)$$

$$= 3 + 3(n^2 - n) + 3n - 3$$

$$= \cancel{3} + 3n^2 - \cancel{3n} + \cancel{3n} - \cancel{3}$$

$$\boxed{a_n = 3n^2}$$

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■ D. Answer the following. (11 points each)

[1] The sum of the first n terms of a sequence is given by $S_n = 9n^2 - 4n$. Find the general term of the sequence.

$$S_n = 9n^2 - 4n$$

$$a_n = S_n - S_{n-1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= 9n^2 - 4n - [9(n-1)^2 - 4(n-1)] \\ &= 9n^2 - 4n - [9(n^2 - 2n + 1) - 4n + 4] \\ &= 9n^2 - 4n - 9n^2 + 18n - 9 + 4n - 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$a_n = 18n - 13$$

[2] Given that $x, x^2, 1$ are three successive terms of an arithmetic sequence and $x \neq 1$, find the number that is the common difference.

$x, x^2, 1$. A.P. \Rightarrow common dif. so,

$$d = x^2 - x = 1 - x^2$$

$$x^2 - x = 1 - x^2$$

$$2x^2 - x - 1 = 0$$

$$(2x+1)(x-1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x+1=0$$

$$x = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$d = 1 - x^2$$

$$= 1 - \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^2$$

$$= 1 - \frac{1}{4}$$

$$d = \frac{3}{4}$$

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[3] If $a_n = (-2)^n \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-1}$, find the sum of the first n terms when n is an even positive integer.

1ST SOLN

$$a_1 = (-2)(1) = -2$$

$$a_2 = 4 \cdot \frac{1}{2} = 2$$

$$a_3 = (-8) \left(\frac{1}{4}\right) = -2$$

Suggests

Sum of even number of terms is ZERO

Proof

$$a_n = (-2)^n \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-1} = (-1)^n \cdot 2^n \cdot 2^{1-n} = (-1)^n \cdot 2^n \cdot 2 \cdot 2^{-n} = (-1)^n \cdot 2$$

so $a_n = 2(-1)^n$. This is G.P. with $a=2$, $r=(-1)$. SO,

$$S_n = 2 \frac{1 - (-1)^n}{1 - (-1)} = 1 - (-1)^n.$$

Now, if n is even, then $n = 2k$, $k = 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$

thus,

$$S_n = 1 - (-1)^{2k}$$

$$= 1 - [(-1)^2]^k$$

$$= 1 - 1^k$$

$$= 0 \text{ for all } k \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$$

$\therefore a_n = (-2)^n \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-1} \Rightarrow S_n = 0$ for all even n .

