



**THIRD SPACE  
LEARNING**

# Recursive Formula Worksheet

Algebra

**Grades 9 to 12**

## Questions

Name: .....

Date: .....

- 1 A sequence is defined by the recursive formula  $a_{n+1} = a_n - 7$  with  $a_0 = 50$ . Find the next four terms of the sequence.

Answer

- 2 A sequence is defined recursively by  $a_{n+1} = 3a_n$  with  $a_0 = 2$ . Find the next four terms of the sequence.

Answer

- 3 A population of bacteria doubles every hour, starting at 100 bacteria. Write a recursive formula for this situation.

Answer

- 4 A company's profits decrease by \$500 each year. Write a recursive formula to represent the sequence, assuming the first year's profit was \$12,000.

Answer

- 5 A sequence is defined by the recursive formula  $a_{n+1} = 1.5a_n$  with  $a_0 = 4$ . Find the value of  $a_3$ .

Answer

## Recursive Formula Worksheet | Grades 9 to 12

- 6 A savings account starts with \$1,000 and grows by \$100 each month. Write a recursive formula to model this situation.

Answer

- 7 A sequence starts with  $a_0 = 5$ , and each term is 3 less than the previous term. Write the first five terms of the sequence.

Answer

- 8 Write a recursive formula for the arithmetic sequence: 7, 13, 19, 25, 31,...

Answer

- 9 Write a recursive formula for the geometric sequence: 6; 180; 5,400; 162,00...

Answer

- 10 Given the recursive formula  $a_{n+1} = a_n + 44.5$  with  $a_0 = 10$ , find the 5th term.

Answer

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- 11 Find the first four terms of the sequence defined recursively by  $a_{n+1} = -12a_n$  with  $a_0 = 3$ .

Answer

- 12 A sequence is defined as  $a_0 = -1$ ,  $a_{n+1} = 0.5a_n$ . Write the first five terms of the sequence.

Answer

- 13 Write a recursive formula for the arithmetic sequence: 5.6, 10.1, 14.6, 18.1,...

Answer

- 14 Write a recursive formula for the geometric sequence: 10, -5, 2.5, -1.25,...

Answer

- 15 A sequence starts at  $a_0 = \frac{2}{3}$  and grows by multiplying each term by 4. Write the first five terms of the sequence.

Answer

## Recursive Formula Worksheet | Grades 9 to 12

- 16 A sequence is defined as  $a_0 = 50$ ,  $a_{n+1} = 0.8a_n$ . What is the 4th term?

Answer

- 17 A sequence begins with  $a_0 = 12$ , and each term decreases by  $\frac{4}{5}$ .  
Write a recursive formula for the sequence.

Answer

- 18 Find the recursive formula for the geometric sequence 100, 25, 6.25, 1.5625,...

Answer

- 19 Write the recursive formula for the arithmetic sequence: -3, -7.5, -12, -16.5,...

Answer

- 20 A sequence is defined by  $a_0 = 5$ ,  $a_{n+1} = -\frac{1}{3}a_n$ . Find the first four terms.

Answer

## Answers

Question number	Question	Answers	Standard
1	A sequence is defined by the recursive formula $a_{n+1} = a_n - 7$ with $a_0 = 50$ . Find the next four terms of the sequence.	43, 36, 29, 22	HSF.BF.A.1
2	A sequence is defined recursively by $a_{n+1} = 3a_n$ with $a_0 = 2$ . Find the next four terms of the sequence.	6, 18, 54, 162	HSF.BF.A.1
3	A population of bacteria doubles every hour, starting at 100 bacteria. Write a recursive formula for this situation.	$a_0 = 100, a_{n+1} = 2a_n$	HSF.BF.A.1
4	A company's profits decrease by \$500 each year. Write a recursive formula to represent the sequence, assuming the first year's profit was \$12,000.	$a_0 = 12000, a_{n+1} = a_n - 500$	HSF.BF.A.1
5	A sequence is defined by the recursive formula $a_{n+1} = 1.5a_n$ with $a_0 = 4$ . Find the value of $a_3$ .	13.5	HSF.BF.A.1
6	A savings account starts with \$1,000 and grows by \$100 each month. Write a recursive formula to model this situation.	$a_0 = 1000, a_{n+1} = a_n + 100$	HSF.BF.A.1

## Recursive Formula Worksheet | Grades 9 to 12 | Answers

Question number	Question	Answers	Standard
7	A sequence starts with $a_0 = 5$ , and each term is 3 less than the previous term. Write the first five terms of the sequence.	5, 2, -1, -4, -7	HSF.BF.A.1
8	Write a recursive formula for the arithmetic sequence: 7, 13, 19, 25, 31,...	$a_0 = 7, a_{n+1} = a_n + 6$	HSF.BF.A.2
9	Write a recursive formula for the geometric sequence: 6; 180; 5,400; 162,000...	$a_0 = 6, a_{n+1} = 30a_n$	HSF.BF.A.2
10	Given the recursive formula $a_{n+1} = a_n + 44.5$ with $a_0 = 10$ , find the 5th term.	232.5	HSF.BF.A.2
11	Find the first four terms of the sequence defined recursively by $a_{n+1} = -12a_n$ with $a_0 = 3$ .	3; -36; 432; -5,184	HSF.BF.A.2
12	A sequence is defined as $a_0 = -1, a_{n+1} = 0.5a_n$ . Write the first five terms of the sequence.	-1, -0.5, -0.25, -0.125, -0.0625	HSF.BF.A.2
13	Write a recursive formula for the arithmetic sequence: 5.6, 10.1, 14.6, 18.1,...	$a_0 = 5.6, a_{n+1} = a_n + 4.5$	HSF.BF.A.2
14	Write a recursive formula for the geometric sequence: 10, -5, 2.5, -1.25,...	$a_0 = 10, a_{n+1} = -0.5a_n$	HSF.BF.A.2
15	A sequence starts at $a_0 = \frac{2}{3}$ and grows by multiplying each term by 4. Write the first five terms of the sequence.	$\frac{2}{3}, \frac{8}{3}, \frac{32}{3}, \frac{128}{3}, \frac{512}{3}$	HSF.BF.A.2

## Recursive Formula Worksheet | Grades 9 to 12 | Answers

Question number	Question	Answers	Standard
16	A sequence is defined as $a_0 = 50$ , $a_{n+1} = 0.8a_n$ . What is the 4th term?	20.48	HSF.LE.A.2
17	A sequence begins with $a_0 = 12$ , and each term decreases by $\frac{4}{5}$ . Write a recursive formula for the sequence.	$a_0 = 12, a_{n+1} = a_n - \frac{4}{5}$	HSF.LE.A.2
18	Find the recursive formula for the geometric sequence 100, 25, 6.25, 1.5625,...	$a_0 = 100, a_{n+1} = 0.25a_n$	HSF.LE.A.2
19	Write the recursive formula for the arithmetic sequence: -3, -7.5, -12, -16.5,...	$a_0 = 3, a_{n+1} = a_n - 4.5$	HSF.LE.A.2
20	A sequence is defined by $a_0 = 5, a_{n+1} = -\frac{1}{3}a_n$ . Find the first four terms.	$5, -\frac{5}{3}, \frac{5}{9}, -\frac{5}{27}$	HSF.LE.A.2






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