

11.2 Arithmetic Sequences

std. 22.0

ex. 1

Given the sequence



Common difference
 $d = 4$

Find a rule for the n th term.

$$a_1 = 1$$

$$a_4 = 1 + 3 \cdot 4$$

$$a_2 = 1 + 1 \cdot 4$$

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

$$a_3 = 1 + 2 \cdot 4$$

$$a_{1000} = 1 + (999)4 = 3997$$

n th term of an arithmetic sequence: $a_n = a_1 + (n-1)d$

ex. 2

Given the sequence $77, 62, 47, 32, \dots$

a) find the 300th term

$$d = -15$$

$$a_{300} = 77 + (300-1)(-15) = -4,408$$

b) Write a rule for the n th term

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

$$a_n = 77 + (n-1)(-15)$$

$$a_n = -15n + 92$$

ex. 3

There are 21 seats in the bottom row of an amphitheater. Each row contains 2 more seats than the row below it.

How many seats in the 35th row? = 89 seats

$$a_{35} = 21 + (34)2$$

$$21, 23, 25, \dots$$

$$a_1, a_2, a_3$$

$$a_{35}$$

ex. 4

Write a rule for an arithmetic sequence if $a_8 = 50$ and $d = 0.25$.

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= a_1 + (n-1)d \\ 50 &= a_1 + (8-1)(.25) & a_n &= 48.25 + (n-1)(.25) \\ 48.25 &= a_1 & a_n &= 48 + .25n \end{aligned}$$

ex. 5

Write a rule for an arithmetic sequence if $a_5 = 10$ and $a_{30} = 110$.

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= a_1 + (n-1)d & a_n &= a_1 + (n-1)d & d &= 4 \\ a_n &= -10 + 4n & 10 &= a_1 + (5-1)d & 10 &= a_1 + 16 \\ & & 110 &= a_1 + (30-1)d & a_1 &= -6 \\ & & \hline & & 100 &= 25d & \hline \end{aligned}$$