

Gold WILF : to find the nth term of a number sequence and apply this to find given terms.

Finding the Nth term



Here is Fernando's example;

Term Number (n)	1	2	3	4
Sequence	2	5	8	11

The **difference** between each number is **3** so the rule (n^{th} term) will start with **$3n$** .

$3n$ as a sequence is 3 , 6 , 9 , 12

We have 2 , 5 , 8 , 11

So to get the numbers we need, we have to **subtract 1**. This must mean the full rule is:

$$3n - 1$$

For each of the following sequences;

- work out the next 3 terms,
- work out the n^{th} term,
- use the n^{th} term rule to work out the 20th term.

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| 1) 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, $2n + 1, 41$ | 2) 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, $3n + 6, 66$ |
| 3) 7, 11, 15, 19, 23, 27, 31, $4n + 3, 83$ | 4) 10, 16, 22, 28, 34, 40, 46, $6n + 4, 124$ |
| 5) 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, $4n - 3, 77$ | 6) 4, 11, 18, 25, 32, 39, 46, $7n - 3, 137$ |
| 7) 2, 7, 12, 17, 22, 27, 32, $5n - 3, 97$ | 8) 4, 9, 14, 19, 24, 29, 34, $5n - 1, 99$ |
| 9) 7, 5, 3, 1, -1, -3, -5, $-2n + 9, -31$ | 10) 16, 13, 10, 7, 4, 1, -2, $-3n + 19, -41$ |

Write down the first **five terms** of the sequence with the following n^{th} terms:

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|---|---|
| 11) $3n + 6$ 9, 12, 15, 18, 21 | 12) $2n - 3$ -1, 1, 3, 5, 7 |
| 13) $-2n + 1$ -1, -3, -5, -7, -9 | 14) $-5n + 12$ 7, 2, -3, -8, -13 |