

# 11-2 Arithmetic Series

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ Block \_\_\_\_\_

✂ **ARITHMETIC SERIES:** the sum of the terms of an arithmetic sequence.

✂ **SUM OF AN ARITHMETIC SEQUENCE:**  $a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n \longrightarrow S_n = \frac{n}{2}(a_1 + a_n)$

✂ **Notation:**  $S_n$  = the Sum of  $n$  terms;  $n$  = the # of terms;  $a_1$  = the 1<sup>st</sup> term;  $a_n$  = the  $n^{\text{th}}$  (last) term

✂ **Remember:** To find any term, you would use the  $n$ th term formula:  
So if you missing  $a_n$ , another formula can be derived:

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

$$S_n = \frac{n}{2}(a_1 + a_1 + (n - 1)d) \longrightarrow S_n = \frac{n}{2}(2a_1 + (n - 1)d)$$

✂ **Examples done by me:**

A. Find  $S_n$  for the sequence  
with  $a_1 = 2, n = 12, a_n = 25$ .  
 $S_{12} = \frac{12}{2}(2 + 25)$   
 $S_{12} = 162$

B. Find  $S_n$  for the sequence  
with  $a_1 = 10, n = 25, a_n = 1000$ .  
 $S_{25} = \frac{25}{2}(10 + 1000)$   
 $S_{25} = 12,625$

C. Find  $S_n$  given  
 $a_1 = 4, d = 8, n = 10$ .  
 $a_{10} = 4 + (10 - 1)8$   
 $a_{10} = 76$   
 $S_{10} = \frac{10}{2}(4 + 76)$   
 $S_{10} = 400$

✂ **Examples done by you:** Find  $S_n$  for each arithmetic series described.

1.  $a_1 = 60, a_n = -136, \& n = 50$   
 $S_{50} = \frac{50}{2}(60 + (-136))$   
 $= 25(-76)$   
 $S_{50} = -1900$

2.  $a_1 = -8, d = -7, \& a_n = -71$   
 $a_n = a_1 + (n-1)d$   
 $-71 = -8 + (n-1)(-7)$   
 $-71 = -8 - 7n + 7$   
 $-71 = -7n - 1$   
 $-70 = -7n$   
 $10 = n$   
 $S_{10} = \frac{10}{2}(-8 + (-71))$   
 $= 5(-79)$   
 $S_{10} = -395$

3.  $a_1 = 32, n = 27, \& d = 3$   
 $S_{27} = \frac{27}{2}(2 \cdot 32 + (27-1)3)$   
 $S_{27} = 13.5(64 + 26 \cdot 3)$   
 $= 13.5(64 + 78)$   
 $= 13.5(142)$   
 $S_{27} = 1917$

4.  $8 + 6 + 4 + \dots + -10$   
 $a_1 = 8$   
 $a_n = -10$   
 $d = -2$   
 $n = ?$   
 $-10 = 8 + (n-1)(-2)$   
 $-10 = 8 - 2n + 2$   
 $-10 = 10 - 2n$   
 $-20 = -2n$   
 $10 = n$   
 $S_{10} = \frac{10}{2}(8 + (-10))$   
 $S_{10} = 5(-2)$   
 $S_{10} = -10$

5.  $16 + 22 + 28 + \dots + 112$   
 $a_1 = 16$   
 $a_n = 112$   
 $d = 6$   
 $n = ?$   
 $112 = 16 + (n-1)6$   
 $112 = 16 + 6n - 6$   
 $90 = 6n$   
 $15 = n$   
 $S_{15} = \frac{15}{2}(16 + 112)$   
 $= 7.5(128)$   
 $S_{15} = 960$

✂ **Find the first three terms of each arithmetic series described.**

6.  $a_1 = 12, a_n = 174, \& S_n = 1767$   
 $S_n = \frac{n}{2}(a_1 + a_n)$   
 $1767 = \frac{n}{2}(12 + 174)$   
 $1767 = \frac{n}{2}(186)$   
 $1767 = 93n$   
 $n = 19$   
 $a_n = a_1 + (n-1)d$   
 $174 = 12 + (19-1)d$   
 $174 = 12 + 18d$   
 $162 = 18d$   
 $9 = d$   
 $12 + 21 + 30$  <sup>1<sup>st</sup></sup>/<sub>3</sub> terms

7.  $a_1 = 80, a_n = -115, \& S_n = -245$   
 $-245 = \frac{n}{2}(80 + (-115))$   
 $-245 = \frac{n}{2}(-35)$   
 $-245 = -17.5n$   
 $14 = n$   
 $-115 = 80 + (14-1)d$   
 $-115 = 80 + 13d$   
 $-195 = 13d$   
 $-15 = d$

$80 + 65 + 50$  <sup>1<sup>st</sup></sup>/<sub>3</sub> terms

✂ SUMMATION/SIGMA NOTATION:

$$\sum_{k=1}^x a_n = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_x$$

•  $\sum$  is a symbol for  $S_n$ , which means to add up the number of terms expressed in the numbers above and below the symbol.

• The # of terms is found by this formula:

$$\sum_{k=x}^b a_n \quad n = b - x + 1$$

•  $n = x$ :  $x$  is the term you start with ( $a_1$ ). Find it by plugging  $x$  into the expression.

•  $a_n$  = the  $n$ th term formula, which is  $a_n = a_1 + (n-1)d = a_1 + dn - d$  Since  $a_1 - d = a_0 \rightarrow a_n = dn + a_0$

• Write in expanded form means to "do it the long way" instead of using the  $S_n$  formula.

✂ EXPRESS A SERIES IN SIGMA NOTATION:

In #4 on the front ( $8 + 6 + 4 + \dots + -10$ ), we found that  $d = -2$ ,  $-10$  is the 10<sup>th</sup> term, so we put the #'s in

the formula:  $\sum_{k=x}^b a_n \rightarrow \sum_{k=1}^{10} a_n \quad a_n = a_1 + (n-1)d = 8 + (n-1)(-2) = 8 - 2n + 2 = -2n + 10 \rightarrow \sum_{k=1}^{10} -2n + 10$

✂ Think: If  $y = mx + b$ , then  $d = m$  and  $b = a_0 \dots$  so for an arithmetic sequence:

$$\sum_{k=1}^b dn + a_0$$

✂ Examples done by me:

A. Write in expanded form and find the sum.

$$\sum_{k=1}^5 2k - 1 = 2(1) - 1 + 2(2) - 1 + 2(3) - 1 + 2(4) - 1 + 2(5) - 1 = 25$$

B. Find the sum using the summation formula. (Do not expand.)

$n = 5 - 1 + 1 = 5$ ,  $a_1 = 2(1) - 1 = 1$ ,  $a_n = 2(5) - 1 = 9$ , therefore  $S_5 = \frac{5}{2}(1 + 9) = 2.5(10) = 25$

✂ Examples done by you: Find the sum of each series.

1.  $\sum_{k=1}^{18} 2k - 7$   
 $a_1 = 2(1) - 7 = -5$   
 $a_{18} = 2(18) - 7 = 29$   
 $n = 18 - 1 + 1 = 18$

$$S_{18} = \frac{18}{2}(-5 + 29) = 216$$

2.  $\sum_{k=5}^{25} k - 1$   
 $a_5 = 5 - 1 = 4$   
 $a_{25} = 25 - 1 = 24$   
 $n = 25 - 5 + 1 = 21$

$$S = \frac{21}{2}(4 + 24) = 294$$

3.  $\sum_{k=10}^{75} 2k - 200$   
 $a_{10} = 2(10) - 200 = -180$   
 $a_{75} = 2(75) - 200 = -50$   
 $n = 75 - 10 + 1 = 66$

$$S = \frac{66}{2}(-180 + -50) = -7590$$

✂ Write summation notation for each of the given series.

4.  $-4, 0, 4, 8, 12, 16$   
 $d = 4$   
 $a_1 = -4$   
 $a_n = -4 + (n-1)4$   
 $a_6 = -4 + 4(6-1) = 16$   
 $a_n = -4 + 4n - 4 = 4n - 8$

$$\sum_{k=1}^6 4n - 8$$

5.  $16 + 22 + 28 + \dots + 112$  (#5 on the front)  $d = 6$   
 $a_1 = 16$   
 $a_n = 16 + (n-1)6$   
 $a_n = 16 + 6n - 6 = 6n + 10$   
 $a_n = 6n + 10$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{15} 6n + 10$$