

### **Introduction to Series and Summation Notation**

A **series** is the indicated sum of the terms of a sequence.

Sequence	1, 2, 3, 4	2, 4, 6, 8, ...	$\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{5}, \frac{1}{6}$
Series	$1 + 2 + 3 + 4$	$2 + 4 + 6 + 8 + \dots$	$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6}$

A **partial sum**, indicated by  $S_n$ , is the sum of a specified number of terms of a sequence.

Example #1:

**Find  $S_5$  for the even numbers sequence: 2, 4, 6, 8, ...**

A series can also be represented by using **summation notation**, which uses the Greek letter  $\Sigma$  (capital *sigma*) to denote the sum of a sequence defined by a rule.

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \mathbf{5} \leftarrow \text{Last value of } k \\
 \Sigma \mathbf{2k} \leftarrow \text{Explicit formula for sequence} \\
 \mathbf{k=1} \leftarrow \text{First value of } k
 \end{array}$$

**Write the series in summation notation:**

I do:

1)  $3 + 6 + 9 + 12$

Solve the formula	$3+6+9+12 = 3k$
Find the last value of k (The number of terms)	4 (There are 4 terms)
Find the first value of k.	$K=1$
Plug into sigma notation.	

We Try:

2)  $4 + 9 + 14 + 19 + 24 + 29$

Solve the formula.	
Find the last value of k (The number of terms).	
Find the first value of k.	$K=1$
Plug into sigma notation.	

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We Try:

3)  $8 + 16 + 32 + 64 + 128$

Solve the formula.	$2^{K+2}$
Find the last value of k (The number of terms).	
Find the first value of k.	$K=1$
Plug into sigma notation.	

You Try with your partner. In your notebooks.  
Odd Talk, Even Write.

4)  $-1 + 2 - 4 + 8$

Solve the formula.	$-1^k(2^{k-1})$
Find the last value of k (The number of terms).	
Find the first value of k.	$K=1$
Plug into sigma notation.	

For sequences using alternating signs, use  $(-1)^{k+1}$  if  $a_1$  is positive and use  $(-1)^k$  if  $a_1$  is negative.

I Try:

Example #2: Expand the series and evaluate.

$$\sum_{k=1}^6 (k^2 - 10)$$

K=1	K=2	K=3	K=4	K=5	K=6
$(1^2 - 10)$	$(2^2 - 10)$	$(3^2 - 10)$	$(4^2 - 10)$	$(5^2 - 10)$	$(6^2 - 10)$
-9	-6	-1	6	15	26

$$-9-6-1+6+15+26=31$$

We Try:

Example #3: Expand and evaluate.

$$\sum_{k=1}^5 -5(2)^{k-1}$$

K=1	K=2	K=3	K=4	K=5

You try with your partner in your notebooks:  
Odd Write, Even Talk.

$$\sum_{k=1}^7 3$$

In a *constant series*, each term has the same value.

### **Arithmetic and Geometric Series**

#### **Arithmetic Series**

- The sum of an arithmetic sequence.

$$S_n = n \left( \frac{a_1 + a_n}{2} \right)$$

- $n$  is the number of terms,  $a_1$  is the 1<sup>st</sup> term, and  $a_n$  is the last term.

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I Try:

Example #1:

Find the sum of  $2 + 4 + 6 + 8 + 10$

Find first ( $a_1$ ) and last ( $a_n$ ) term.	$(a_1) = 2$ $(a_n) = 10$ $n=5$
Plug into equation $S_n = n \frac{(a_1+a_2)}{2}$	$S_n = 5 \frac{(2 + 10)}{2}$
Simplify	$S_n = 5 \left( \frac{12}{2} \right) = \frac{60}{2} = 30$

We Try:

Find  $S_{10}$  for  $13 + 2 + (-9) + (-20) + \dots$

Find first ( $a_1$ ) and last ( $a_n$ ) term.	
Plug into equation $S_n = n \frac{(a_1+a_2)}{2}$	
Simplify	

You try with your partner

Odd Talk, Even Write:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{15} (5 + 2k)$$

**Geometric Series** – The sum of a geometric sequence.

$$S_n = a_1 \left( \frac{1 - r^n}{1 - r} \right), r \neq 1$$

- $n$  is the number of terms,  $a_1$  is the 1<sup>st</sup> term, and  $a_n$  is the last term.

I Try:

Find  $S_8$  for  $1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + 16 + \dots$

Find first ( $a_1$ ) and last ( $a_n$ ) term.	$(a_1) = 1$ $n=8$ $r=2$ <i>(Use <math>a_n = a_1 r^{n-1}</math> to find <math>a_8</math>)</i>  $(a_8) = (a_1)r^{8-1}$ $(a_8) = (1)2^7$ $a_8 = 2^7$ $a_8 = 128$
Plug into equation $S_n = a_1 \left( \frac{1-r^n}{1-r} \right)$	$S_n = 1 \left( \frac{1 - 2^8}{1 - 2} \right)$
Simplify	$S_n = \frac{(1 - 256)}{-1} = 255$



We Try:

Example #4:

$$\sum_{k=1}^6 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{k-1}$$

Find first ( $a_1$ ) and last ( $a_n$ ) term.	
Plug into equation $S_n = a_1 \left(\frac{1-r^n}{1-r}\right)$	
Simplify	

You try with your partner:

Odd Write, Even Talk

**Find  $S_5$  for the sequence: 32, 8, 2, .5, ...**

Find first ( $a_1$ ) and last ( $a_n$ ) term.	
Plug into equation $S_n = a_1 \left( \frac{1-r^n}{1-r} \right)$	
Simplify	