

SEQUENCE AND SERIES

Sequence : A sequence can be regarded as a function whose domain is the set of natural numbers on some subset of it of the type $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, k\}$. Sometimes, we use the functional notation $a(n)$ for a_n .

Series : Let $a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n$ be a given sequence. Then, the expression $a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n + \dots$ is called the series associated with the given sequence.

$$a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k$$

Arithmetic progression : $a, a+d, a+2d, \dots$

• **n^{th} term (General term)** $a_n = a + (n-1)d$ $l = a + (n-1)d$

• **The sum of n terms** $S_n = \frac{n}{2}[2a + (n-1)d]$

a = first term

l = last term

d = common difference

n = the no. of terms

S_n = the sum of n terms

• **Sum of A.P. when first and last term is given,** $S_n = \frac{n}{2}[a+l]$

Arithmetic Mean (A.M.) $A = \frac{a+b}{2}$ a and b = two numbers
A = Arithmetic Mean

Geometric Progression (G.P.) a, ar, ar^2, ar^3, \dots

• **General term of G.P.** $a_n = ar^{n-1}$ r = common ratio

• **Sum of n terms of G.P.** $S_n = a + ar + ar^2 + ar^3 + \dots + ar^{n-1}$

Case I If $r=1$ $S_n = na$

Case II If $r \neq 1$ $S_n = \frac{a(1-r^n)}{1-r}$ OR $S_n = \frac{a(r^n-1)}{r-1}$

Geometric Mean (G.M.) $G_1 = \sqrt{ab}$; $a, b > 0$

Relationship between A.M and G.M. $A - G_1 = \frac{(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b})^2}{2} \geq 0$; $a, b > 0$

Sum of first n natural numbers

$$S_n = 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n ; S_n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

Sum of squares of the first n natural numbers

$$S_n = 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 ; S_n = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

Sum of cubes of the first n natural numbers

$$S_n = 1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + n^3 ; S_n = \frac{[n(n+1)]^2}{4}$$