

Please attempt the following questions in preparation for the online session on 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

Q1

A sequence is defined by the recurrence relation  $u_{n+1} = 2u_n + 3$  and  $u_0 = 1$ .  
What is the value of  $u_4$ ?

Q2

A sequence is defined by the recurrence relation  $u_{n+1} = \frac{1}{3}u_n + 10$  with  $u_2 = -12$ .

(a) What is the value of  $u_3$ ?

(b) Explain why this sequence approaches a limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ?

(c) Calculate this limit.

Q3

(a) A sequence is defined by  $u_{n+1} = -\frac{1}{2}u_n$  with  $u_0 = -16$ .

Write down the values of  $u_1$  and  $u_2$ .

(b) A second sequence is given by 4, 5, 7, 11, ...

It is generated by the recurrence relation  $v_{n+1} = pv_n + q$  with  $v_1 = 4$ . Find the values of  $p$  and  $q$ .

(c) Either the sequence in (a) or the sequence in (b) has a limit. Calculate this limit.

## Higher Maths: Recurrence Relations

Q4

A frog and a toad fall to the bottom of a well that is 50 feet deep. Each day the frog climbs 32 feet then rests overnight. Overnight it slides down  $\frac{2}{3}$  of its height above the floor of the well. The toad climbs 13 feet each day before resting. Overnight it slides down  $\frac{1}{4}$  of its height above the floor of the well. Their progress can be modelled by the recurrence relations:

$$f_{n+1} = \frac{1}{3}u_n + 32 \text{ with } f_1 = 32$$

and

$$t_{n+1} = \frac{3}{4}t_n + 13 \text{ with } t_1 = 13$$

where  $f_n$  and  $t_n$  are the heights reached by the frog and the toad at the end of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  day after falling in.

- (a) Calculate, the height of the toad at the end of the second day.
- (b) Determine whether or not either of them will eventually escape from the well.

Q5

A sequence is generated by the recurrence relation  $u_{n+1} = mu_n + 6$ , where  $m$  is a constant.

- (a) Given  $u_1 = 28$  and  $u_2 = 13$ , find the value of  $m$ .
- (b) Explain why this sequence approaches a limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ?
- (c) Calculate this limit.

Q6

Sequences can be generated by the recurrence relations of the form  $u_{n+1} = ku_n - 20$ ,  $u_0 = 5$  where  $k \in R$

- (a) Show that  $u_2 = 5k^2 - 20k - 20$ .
- (b) Determine the range of values of  $k$  for which  $u_2 < u_0$ .