

Quiz 5

1) Find the sum.

$$1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{8} + \dots - \frac{1}{512}$$

The first term is 1, that is $a = 1$, and the common ratio $r = -\frac{1}{2}$. We need to calculate n and then plug it in to the formula

$$S_n = a \left[\frac{1 - r^n}{1 - r} \right].$$

So $ar^{n-1} = \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-1} = -\frac{1}{512}$, which implies that $n - 1 = 9$, and therefore, $n = 10$. Now, the required sum is

$$S_{10} = 1 \left[\frac{1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{10}}{1 + \frac{1}{2}} \right] = \frac{341}{512}.$$

2) Find the sum of the infinite series

$$\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{27} + \frac{1}{81} + \dots$$

The first term $a = \frac{1}{3}$ and the common ratio $r = \frac{1}{3}$. Use the formula

$$S_\infty = \frac{a}{1 - r}$$

to obtain the sum of the infinite series

$$S_\infty = \frac{\frac{1}{3}}{1 - \frac{1}{3}} = \frac{1}{2}.$$

3) Expand the expression

$$\left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^5$$

$$= x^5 + 5x^4 \frac{1}{x} + 10x^3 \frac{1}{x^2} + 10x^2 \frac{1}{x^3} + 5x \frac{1}{x^4} + \frac{1}{x^5}$$

$$= x^5 + 5x^3 + 10x + \frac{10}{x} + \frac{5}{x^3} + \frac{1}{x^5}.$$