

Proof by induction 2

Q1. The sequence a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots is such that $a_1 > 5$ and $a_{n+1} = \frac{4a_n}{5} + \frac{5}{a_n}$ for every positive integer n .
Prove by mathematical induction that $a_n > 5$ for every positive integer n . [5]

Prove also that $a_n > a_{n+1}$ for every positive integer n . [2]

Q2. Prove by mathematical induction that, for all positive integers n , $10^n + 3 \times 4^{n+2} + 5$ is divisible by 9. [6]

Q3. It is given that a diagonal of a polygon is a line joining two non-adjacent vertices. Prove, by mathematical induction, that an n -sided polygon has $\frac{1}{2}n(n-3)$ diagonals, where $n \geq 3$. [6]

Q4. Using factorials, show that $\binom{n}{r-1} + \binom{n}{r} = \binom{n+1}{r}$. [2]

Hence prove by mathematical induction that

$$(a+x)^n = \binom{n}{0}a^n + \binom{n}{1}a^{n-1}x + \dots + \binom{n}{r}a^{n-r}x^r + \dots + \binom{n}{n}x^n$$

for every positive integer n . [4]

Q5. (i) Show that $\frac{d^{n+1}}{dx^{n+1}}(x^{n+1} \ln x) = \frac{d^n}{dx^n}(x^n + (n+1)x^n \ln x)$. [2]

(ii) Prove by mathematical induction that, for all positive integers n ,

$$\frac{d^n}{dx^n}(x^n \ln x) = n! \left(\ln x + 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n} \right). [5]$$

Q6. The sequence of positive numbers u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots is such that $u_1 < 3$ and, for $n \geq 1$,

$$u_{n+1} = \frac{4u_n + 9}{u_n + 4}.$$

(i) By considering $3 - u_{n+1}$, or otherwise, prove by mathematical induction that $u_n < 3$ for all positive integers n . [5]

(ii) Show that $u_{n+1} > u_n$ for $n \geq 1$. [3]

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Q7. It is given that $y = e^x u$, where u is a function of x . The r th derivatives $\frac{d^r y}{dx^r}$ and $\frac{d^r u}{dx^r}$ are denoted by $y^{(r)}$ and $u^{(r)}$ respectively. Prove by mathematical induction that, for all positive integers n ,

$$y^{(n)} = e^x \left(\binom{n}{0} u + \binom{n}{1} u^{(1)} + \binom{n}{2} u^{(2)} + \dots + \binom{n}{r} u^{(r)} + \dots + \binom{n}{n} u^{(n)} \right). \quad [8]$$

[You may use without proof the result $\binom{k}{r} + \binom{k}{r-1} = \binom{k+1}{r}$.]

Q8. (a) Prove by mathematical induction that, for all positive integers n ,

$$\sum_{r=1}^n (5r^4 + r^2) = \frac{1}{2} n^2 (n+1)^2 (2n+1). \quad [6]$$

(b) Use the result given in part (a) together with the List of formulae (MF19) to find $\sum_{r=1}^n r^4$ in terms of n , fully factorising your answer. [3]
