

**Math 1050**  
**Test 3 (Practice)**  
**Solutions**

1. The sequence  $\{a_n\}$  is defined recursively by  $a_1 = -4$  ,  $a_2 = 3$  , and  $a_n = -5a_{n-1} + 3a_{n-2}$  . Find  $a_3$  and  $a_8$  .

$$a_3 = -5a_2 + 3a_1 = -27$$

$$a_8 = 136,251$$

2. Express the following sum in sigma notation:

$$8 + 11 + 14 + 17 + \dots + 176$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{57} (3n + 5)$$

3. a) Find the common difference and the 75-th term for the following arithmetic sequence.

$$27, 23, 19, 15, \dots$$

$$d = -4$$

$$a_{75} = a_1 + (74)d = 27 + (74)(-4) = -269$$

- b) Find the common ratio, the 38-th term, and the sum of the following geometric sequence.

$$16, -8, 4, -2, \dots$$

$$r = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$a_{38} = a_1 \cdot r^{37} = 16 \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{37} = -1.164 \times 10^{-10}$$

4. Find the first four terms in the expansion of  $\left(x - \frac{3}{x}\right)^7$

$$\left(x - \frac{3}{x}\right)^7 = x^7 + \binom{7}{1}x^6\left(-\frac{3}{x}\right)^1 + \binom{7}{2}x^5\left(-\frac{3}{x}\right)^2 + \binom{7}{3}x^4\left(-\frac{3}{x}\right)^3 + \binom{7}{4}x^3\left(-\frac{3}{x}\right)^4 + \binom{7}{5}x^2\left(-\frac{3}{x}\right)^5 + \binom{7}{6}x^1\left(-\frac{3}{x}\right)^6$$

First four terms:  $x^7 - 21x^5 + 189x^3 - 945x^1$

5. Find the coefficient of the  $x^5$  term in the binomial expansion of  $(5-x)^9$ .

$$\binom{9}{5}5^4(-x)^5 = -78750x^5$$

6. Reduce the following system to echelon form, and find the solution set.

$$x - 2y + z = -5$$

$$-x + 3y - 2z = 7$$

$$3x + 4y - 2z = 25$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 & -5 \\ -1 & 3 & -2 & 7 \\ 3 & 4 & -2 & 25 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 & -5 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 20 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x = 3, y = 6, z = 4$$

7. Reduce the following system to echelon form, and find the solution set.

$$x - 4y + z = 2$$

$$y + 2z = 5$$

$$-x + 6y + 3z = 8$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 5 \\ -1 & 6 & 3 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$z = k, y = 5 - 2k, x = 22 - 9k$$

8. Find an equation for the parabola in the form  $y = x^2 + bx + c$  that contains the points  $(2, -7)$  and  $(-3, 33)$ .

Substitute both point into the equation and solve the system

$$2b + c = -11$$

$$-3b + c = 24$$

$$b = -7, c = 3$$

9. Find all points of intersection of the line  $x + y = 3$  with the parabola  $y = x^2 + 5x + 1$ .

$$\text{Solve: } 3 - x = x^2 + 5x + 1$$

$$x = -3 \pm \sqrt{11}$$

10. Graph the solution to following system of inequalities:

$$y \leq x^2 - 4$$

$$x + y - 2 \leq 0$$

