



Blue Print (As per PU Board)

Topic	1 mark questions	2 marks questions	3 marks questions	5 marks questions	Total Marks
Principle of Mathematical Induction	-	-	-	1	5

Questions and Answers

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

Answer: Let  $P(n) : 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$

For  $n = 1, P(1) : 1 = \frac{1(1+1)}{2} = \frac{2}{2} = 1$ , which is true.

Assuming that  $P(k)$  is true for some +ve integer  $k$ , we have,

$$1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + k = \frac{k(k+1)}{2} \text{-----(1)}$$

We shall now prove that  $P(k+1)$  is also true, now we have

$$1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + k + (k+1) = \frac{k(k+1)}{2} + (k+1) \text{ (using (1))}$$

$$= (k+1) \left( \frac{k}{2} + 1 \right) = \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2} = \frac{(k+1)(k+1+1)}{2}$$

Thus  $P(k+1)$  is true whenever  $P(k)$  is true.

Hence from principal of Mathematical Induction (PMI) the statement  $P(n)$  is true for all natural numbers  $n$ .

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

Answer: Let  $P(n) : 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$

For  $n = 1, P(1) : 1^2 = \frac{1(1+1)(2 \cdot 1 + 1)}{6} = \frac{1(2)(3)}{6} = 1 \Rightarrow 1 = 1$ , which is true.

Assume that  $P(k)$  is true for some positive integer  $k$ , we have,

$$1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + k^2 = \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6} \text{-----(1)}$$

Now we shall prove that  $P(k+1)$  is also true, now we have,

$$1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + k^2 + (k+1)^2 = \frac{k(k+1)(2k+1)}{6} + (k+1)^2 \text{ (using (1))}$$

$$= (k+1) \left[ \frac{k(2k+1)}{6} + (k+1) \right]$$

$$= (k+1) \left[ \frac{2k^2 + 7k + 6}{6} \right]$$

$$= \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(2k+3)}{6} = \frac{(k+1)(k+1+1)(2(k+1)+1)}{6}$$



Thus  $P(k+1)$  is true and the inductive proof is completed.

Hence  $P(n)$  is true for all positive integers of  $n$ .

3.  $1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + n^3 = \frac{n^2(n+1)^2}{4}$

Answer: Let  $P(n): 1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + n^3 = \frac{n^2(n+1)^2}{4}$

For  $n=1$ ,  $P(1): 1^3 = \frac{1^2(1+1)^2}{4} = \frac{1(2)^2}{4} = \frac{4}{4} = 1 \Rightarrow 1=1$ , is true.

Assume that  $P(k)$  is true for some positive integer  $k$ , we have,

$$1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + k^3 = \frac{k^2(k+1)^2}{4} \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

Now we shall prove that  $P(k+1)$  is also true, now we have

$$1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + k^3 + (k+1)^3 = \frac{k^2(k+1)^2}{4} + (k+1)^3 \quad \text{(using (1))}$$

$$= (k+1)^2 \left[ \frac{k^2}{4} + (k+1) \right]$$

$$= (k+1)^2 \left[ \frac{k^2 + 4k + 4}{4} \right]$$

$$= \frac{(k+1)^2(k+2)^2}{4} = \frac{(k+1)^2(k+1+1)^2}{4}$$

Thus  $P(k+1)$  is also true.

Hence by the principle of mathematical induction (PMI) the statement  $P(n)$  is true for all positive integers of  $n$ .

4. **Prove by the principle of mathematical induction that the sum of the first  $n$  odd natural numbers is  $n^2$ .**

Answer: Let  $P(n): 1+3+5+7+\dots+(2n-1) = n^2$

For  $n=1$ ,  $P(1): 1 = 1^2 = 1$ , which is true

Assume that  $P(k)$  is true for some positive integer  $k$ , we have,

$$1+3+5+\dots+(2k-1) = k^2 \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

We shall now prove that  $P(k+1)$  is true, now we have,

$$1+3+5+\dots+(2k-1)+(2k+1) = k^2 + (2k+1) \quad \text{(using (1))}$$

$$= k^2 + 2k + 1 = (k+1)^2$$

Thus  $P(k+1)$  is also true.

Hence by the principle of mathematical induction (PMI) the statement  $P(n)$  is true for all positive integers of  $n$ .

5.  $1.2+3.4+5.6+\dots$  u[  $n$  terms  $= \frac{n(n+1)(4n-1)}{3}$

Answer: Let  $P(n): 1.2+3.4+5.6+\dots$  up  $n$  terms  $= \frac{n(n+1)(4n-1)}{3}$

Here the  $n$ th term is  $= (2n-1)(2n)$ , so the equation becomes.



$$P(n): 1.2 + 3.4 + 5.6 + \dots + (2n-1)(2n) = \frac{n(n+1)(4n-1)}{3}$$

For  $n = 1$ ,  $P(1): 1.2 = \frac{1(1+1)(4 \cdot 1 - 1)}{3} = \frac{1(2)(3)}{3} = 2 \Rightarrow 2 = 2$ , Which is true.

Assume that  $P(k)$  is true for some positive integer  $k$ , we have,

$$1.2 + 3.4 + 5.6 + \dots + (2k-1)(2k) = \frac{k(k+1)(4k-1)}{3} \quad \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

We shall now prove that  $P(k+1)$  is true, now we have,

$$\begin{aligned} & 1.2 + 3.4 + 5.6 + \dots + (2k-1)(2k) + (2k+1)2(k+1) \\ &= \frac{k(k+1)(4k-1)}{3} + (2k+1)2(k+1) \quad (\text{using (1)}) \\ &= (k+1) \left[ \frac{k(4k-1)}{3} + 2(2k+1) \right] \\ &= (k+1) \left[ \frac{4k^2 - k + 12k + 6}{3} \right] = (k+1) \left[ \frac{4k^2 + 11k + 6}{3} \right] \\ &= \frac{(k+1)(k+2)(4k+3)}{4} = \frac{(k+1)(k+1+1)(4k-1)}{3} \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $P(k+1)$  is true whenever  $P(k)$  is true.

Hence by the principle of mathematical induction (PMI) the statement  $P(n)$  is true for all positive integers of  $n$ .

6.  $\frac{1}{1.4} + \frac{1}{4.7} + \frac{1}{7.10} + \dots + \frac{1}{(3n-2)(3n+1)} = \frac{n}{(3n+1)}$

Answer: Let  $P(n): \frac{1}{1.4} + \frac{1}{4.7} + \frac{1}{7.10} + \dots + \frac{1}{(3n-2)(3n+1)} = \frac{n}{(3n+1)}$

For  $n = 1$ ,  $P(1): \frac{1}{1.4} = \frac{1}{(3 \cdot 1 + 1)} = \frac{1}{4} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{4}$ , is true.

Assume that  $P(k)$  is true of some positive integer  $k$ , we have,

$$\frac{1}{1.4} + \frac{1}{4+7} + \frac{1}{7.10} + \dots + \frac{1}{(3k-2)(3k+1)} = \frac{k}{3k+1}$$

We shall now prove that  $P(k+1)$  is true, now we have,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{1.4} + \frac{1}{4+7} + \frac{1}{7.10} + \dots + \frac{1}{(3k-2)(3k+1)} = \frac{1}{(3k+1)(3k+4)} = \frac{k}{(3k+1)} + \frac{1}{(3k+1)(3k+4)} \\ &= \frac{1}{(3k+1)} \left[ k + \frac{1}{3k+4} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{(3k+1)} \left( \frac{3k^2 + 4k + 1}{3k+4} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{(3k+1)} \frac{(k+1)(3k+1)}{3k+4} = \frac{(k+1)}{3(k+1)+1} \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $P(k+1)$  is true whenever  $P(k)$  is true.

Hence by the principle of mathematical induction (PMI) the statement  $P(n)$  is true for all positive integers of  $n$ .



7.  $1.2 + 2.2^2 + 3.2^3 + \dots + n.2^n = (n-1)2^{n+1} + 2$

Answer: Let  $P(n): 1.2 + 2.2^2 + 3.2^3 + \dots + n.2^n = (n-1)2^{n+1} + 2$

Assume that  $P(k)$  is true for some positive integer  $k$ , we have,

$$1.2 + 2.2^2 + 3.2^3 + \dots + k.2^k + (k+1).2^{k+1} \quad \dots(1)$$

We shall now prove that  $P(k+1)$  is true, for we have.

$$\begin{aligned} &1.2 + 2.2^2 + 3.2^3 + \dots + k.2^k + (k+1).2^{k+1} \\ &= (k-1)2^{k+1} + 2 + (k+1).2^{k+1} \quad \text{(using (1))} \\ &= (k-1+k+1)2^{k+1} + 2 \\ &= 2k.2^{k+1} = k.2^{k+2} + 2 \\ &= (k+1-1)2^{k+1+1} + 2 \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $P(k+1)$  is true whenever  $P(k)$  is true.

Hence by the principle of mathematical induction (PMI) the statement  $P(n)$  is true for all positive integers of  $n$ .

8.  $\left(1 + \frac{3}{1}\right)\left(1 + \frac{5}{4}\right)\left(1 + \frac{7}{9}\right) \dots \left(1 + \frac{2n+1}{n^2}\right) = (n+1)^2$

Answer: Let  $P(n): \left(1 + \frac{3}{1}\right)\left(1 + \frac{5}{4}\right)\left(1 + \frac{7}{9}\right) \dots \left(1 + \frac{2n+1}{n^2}\right) = (n+1)^2$

For  $n=1$ ,  $P(1): \left(1 + \frac{3}{1}\right) = (1+1)^2 = 4 \Rightarrow 4 = 4$ , Which is true.

Assume that  $P(k)$  is true of  $r$  some positive integer  $k$ , we have

$$\left(1 + \frac{3}{1}\right)\left(1 + \frac{5}{4}\right)\left(1 + \frac{7}{9}\right) \dots \left(1 + \frac{2k+1}{k^2}\right) = (k+1)^2 \quad \dots(1)$$

Now we shall prove that  $P(k+1)$  is also true, now we have,

$$\begin{aligned} &\left(1 + \frac{3}{1}\right)\left(1 + \frac{5}{4}\right)\left(1 + \frac{7}{9}\right) \dots \left(1 + \frac{2k+1}{k^2}\right)\left(1 + \frac{2k+3}{(k+1)^2}\right) \\ &= (k+1)^2 \left(1 + \frac{2k+3}{(k+1)^2}\right) \quad \text{(using (1))} \\ &= k^2 + 2k + 1 + 2k + 3 \\ &= k^2 + 4k + 4 \\ &= (k+2)^2 = (k+1+1)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $P(k+1)$  is true whenever  $P(k)$  is true.

Hence by the principle of mathematical induction (PMI) the statement  $P(n)$  is true for all positive integers of  $n$ .

9.  $\frac{1}{2.5} + \frac{1}{5.8} + \frac{1}{8.11} + \dots + \frac{1}{(3n-1)(3n+2)} = \frac{n}{6n+4}$

Answer: Let  $P(n): \frac{1}{2.5} + \frac{1}{5.8} + \frac{1}{8.11} + \dots + \frac{1}{(3n-1)(3n+2)} = \frac{n}{6n+4}$

For  $n=1$ ,  $P(1): \frac{1}{2.5} = \frac{1}{6.1+4} = \frac{1}{10} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{10} = \frac{1}{10}$ , is true



Assume that  $P(k)$  is true for some positive integer  $k$ , we have,

$$\frac{1}{2.5} + \frac{1}{5.8} + \frac{1}{8.11} + \dots + \frac{1}{(3k-1)(3k+2)} = \frac{k}{6k+4} \quad \dots(1)$$

Now we shall prove that  $P(k+1)$  is also true, now we have,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{2.5} + \frac{1}{5.8} + \frac{1}{8.11} + \dots + \frac{1}{(3k-1)(3k+2)} + \frac{1}{(3k+2)(3k+5)} \\ &= \frac{k}{6k+4} + \frac{1}{(3k+2)(3k+5)} \quad (\text{using (1)}) \\ &= \frac{k}{2(3k+2)} + \frac{1}{(3k+2)(3k+5)} \\ &= \frac{1}{3k+2} \left[ \frac{k}{2} + \frac{1}{3k+5} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{3k+2} \left[ \frac{3k^2+5k+2}{2(3k+5)} \right] = \frac{(k+1)(3k+2)}{2(3k+2)(3k+5)} \\ &= \frac{k+1}{2(3k+5)} = \frac{k+1}{6k+10} = \frac{k+1}{6(k+1)+4} \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $P(k+1)$  is true whenever  $P(k)$  is true.

Hence by the principle of mathematical induction (PMI) the statement  $P(n)$  is true for all positive integers of  $n$ .

10.  $1+2+3+\dots+n < \frac{(2n+1)^2}{8}$ .

Answer: Let  $P(n): 1+2+3+\dots+n < \frac{(2n+1)^2}{8}$

Assume that  $P(k)$  is true for some positive integer  $k$ , we have,

$$1+2+3+\dots+k < \frac{(2k+1)^2}{8} \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

Now we shall prove that  $P(k+1)$  is also true, now we have,

$$\begin{aligned} & 1+2+3+\dots+k+(k+1) < \frac{(2k+1)^2}{8} + (k+1) \quad (\text{using (1)}) \\ & < \frac{1}{8} [4k^2+4k+1+8k+8] \\ & < \frac{1}{8} [4k^2+12k+9] \\ & < \frac{1}{8} [(2k+3)^2] \\ & < \frac{1}{8} [(k+1)+1]^2 \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $P(k+1)$  is true whenever  $P(k)$  is true.

Hence by the principle of mathematical induction (PMI) the statement  $P(n)$  is true for all positive integers of  $n$ .

11.  $10^{2n-1} + 1$  is divisible by 11.

Answer: Let  $P(n): 10^{2n-1} + 1$  is divisible by 11.



$\therefore P(1)$  is true.

Assume that  $P(k)$  is true for some positive integer  $k$ , we have,  $P(k): 10^{2k-1} + 1$  is divisible by 11.

$$\Rightarrow 10^{2k-1} + 1 = 11d \dots \dots (1), \text{ for some } d \in N$$

Now we shall prove that  $P(k+1)$  is divisible by 11, we have,

$$10^{2(k+1)-1} + 1 = 10^{2k-1+2} + 1 = 10^{2k-1} \cdot 10^2 + 1 = 10^{2k-1} \cdot 100 + 1$$

$$= (11d - 1)100 + 1 \quad (\because \text{from (1)})$$

$$= 1100d - 99 = 11(100d - 9) = 11m, \text{ where } m = 100d - 9 \in N$$

Thus  $P(k+1)$  is also true.

Hence by PMI,  $P(n)$  is divisible by 11 for all  $n \in N$

12.  $x^{2n} - y^{2n}$  is divisible by  $(x + y)$

Answer: Let  $P(n): x^{2n} - y^{2n}$  is divisible by  $(x + y)$

For  $n=1$ ,  $P(1): x^{2 \cdot 1} - y^{2 \cdot 1} = x^2 - y^2 = (x + y)(x - y)$  is divisible by  $(x + y)$ .

$\therefore P(1)$  is true.

Assume that  $P(k)$  is true for some positive integer  $k$ , we have,

$$P(k): x^{2k} - y^{2k}, \text{ is divisible by } (x + y)$$

$$P(k): x^{2k} - y^{2k} = (x + y)d \dots \dots (1), \text{ for some } d \in N$$

Now we shall prove that  $P(k+1)$  is divisible by  $x + y$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} x^{2(k+1)} - y^{2(k+1)} &= x^{2k+2} - y^{2k+2} = x^{2k} \cdot x^2 - y^{2k} \cdot y^2 \\ &= x^{2k} \cdot x^2 - x^2 \cdot y^{2k} + x^2 \cdot y^{2k} - y^{2k} \cdot y^2 \end{aligned} \quad (\text{add \& sub. } x^2 \cdot y^{2k})$$

$$= x^2 (x^{2k} - y^{2k}) + y^{2k} (x^2 - y^2)$$

$$= x^2 \cdot (x + y)d + y^{2k} (x - y)(x + y) \quad (\because \text{from (1)}),$$

$$= (x + y) [x^2 d + y^{2k} (x - y)]$$

$$= (x + y)m, \text{ where } m = x^2 d + y^{2k} (x - y) \in N$$

Thus  $P(k+1)$  is also true.

Hence by PMI,  $P(n)$  is divisible by all  $n \in N$