

## 5.1

## Exponential Functions

In this lesson you will

- write a **recursive formula** to model **radioactive decay**
- find an **exponential function** that passes through the points of a geometric sequence
- learn about **half-life** for exponential decay and **doubling time** for exponential growth

In Chapter 1, you used recursive formulas to model geometric growth and decay. Recursive formulas generate only discrete values, such as the amount of money in an account after 1 year or 2 years. In many real-life situations, growth and decay happen continuously. In this lesson you will find explicit formulas that allow you to model continuous growth and decay.

### Investigation: Radioactive Decay

Read the first paragraph and the Procedure Note in the investigation. If you have a die, you can conduct the experiment yourself by following these steps:

1. Draw 30 dots on a sheet of paper.
2. Roll the die once for each dot. If you roll a 1, erase or cross out the dot.
3. Count and record the number of dots remaining.
4. Repeat Steps 2 and 3 until fewer than three dots remain.

After you have collected the data, complete Steps 1–6 in your book. The results given below use these sample data:

Stage	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
People standing (or dots left)	30	26	19	17	14	12	11	9	8	8	5	5	2

**Step 1** See the table above.

**Step 2** At right is a graph of the data. The graph resembles a decreasing geometric sequence.

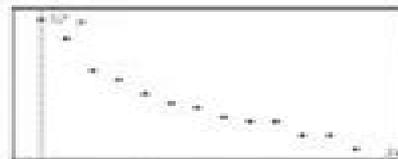
**Step 3** The initial term is  $u_0 = 30$ . To find the common ratio, look at the ratios of consecutive  $y$ -values:

$$\frac{26}{30} = 0.867, \frac{19}{26} = 0.731, \frac{17}{19} = 0.895, \frac{14}{17} = 0.824, \frac{12}{14} = 0.857, \frac{11}{12} = 0.917,$$

$$\frac{9}{11} = 0.818, \frac{8}{9} = 0.889, \frac{8}{8} = 1, \frac{5}{8} = 0.625, \frac{5}{5} = 1, \frac{2}{5} = 0.4$$

Find the mean of these 12 ratios to obtain  $r \approx 0.8185$ .

By completing the table in your book, you should have noticed a pattern:  $u_1 = u_0 \cdot r$ ,  $u_2 = u_0 \cdot r^2$ , and  $u_3 = u_0 \cdot r^3$ , and you can extend this pattern to  $u_n = u_0 \cdot r^n$ . Thus the explicit formula for the data is  $u_n = 30 \cdot 0.8185^n$ .



(continued)

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**Julia Schneider**



**Lesson 5 1 Exponential Functions Kendallhunt Prek 12:**

## Unveiling the Magic of Words: A Review of "**Lesson 5 1 Exponential Functions Kendallhunt Prek 12**"

In a world defined by information and interconnectivity, the enchanting power of words has acquired unparalleled significance. Their capability to kindle emotions, provoke contemplation, and ignite transformative change is really awe-inspiring. Enter the realm of "**Lesson 5 1 Exponential Functions Kendallhunt Prek 12**," a mesmerizing literary masterpiece penned by way of a distinguished author, guiding readers on a profound journey to unravel the secrets and potential hidden within every word. In this critique, we shall delve in to the book is central themes, examine its distinctive writing style, and assess its profound affect the souls of its readers.

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