

Binomial theorem exercise

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Quick Review

Binomial Theorem

Let a, b be real numbers, and n be a positive integer. Then

$$(a + b)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} a^k b^{n-k}$$

or equivalently,

$$(a + b)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} a^{n-k} b^k$$

Exercise

1 Expand the following expressions using binomial theorem.

(a) $(a + b)^3$

(b) $(3x - 4)^5$

(c) $(5x^3 - y^2)^4$

(d) $\left(2x - \frac{1}{x}\right)^4$

2 Expand the following expressions in ascending power of x up to the term x^3 .

(a) $(2x + 3)(x - 3)^4$

(b) $(2 - x + x^2)^6$

Hint: You may consider $(2 - x + x^2)^6$ as $[2 + (-x + x^2)]^6$.

3 Calculate the following values using binomial theorem.

(a) 101^4

(b) 98^3

- 4 Estimate the following values using binomial theorem.
- 1.01^6 up to 3 decimal places.
 - 1.98^4 up to 2 decimal places.
- 5
- Expand $(1 - 2x + 3x^2)^6$ in ascending power of x up to the term x^3 .
 - Solve the equation $1 - 2x + 3x^2 = 0.9803$.
 - By choosing a suitable value in (b) and using part (a), estimate the value of 0.9803^6 .
- 6 Consider the expression $\left(2x^2 - \frac{1}{x}\right)^{13}$, find
- the coefficient of the term x^{11} .
 - the coefficient of the term $\frac{1}{x^4}$.
 - the constant term.
- 7 Consider the expression $(3 - x + 2x^2)(5x - 1)^8$, find
- the coefficient of the term x^{10} .
 - the coefficient of the term x .
 - the coefficient of the term x^4 .
- 8 Given that the constant term of the expression $(x^2 - 2)^n(2x - 1)$ is -16, where n is a positive integer.
- Find the value of n .
 - Hence, find the coefficient of the term x^5 .
- 9 Let a, b be integers, and n be a positive integer.
- expand $(ax + b)^n$ in ascending power of x up to the term x^3 .
 - Given that the coefficients of the term $\frac{1}{x}$, x , and the constant term of the expression $\left(2x - 3 + \frac{1}{x}\right)(ax + b)^n$ are -1, -72 and 13 respectively. Find the value of a, b and n .

10 Let n be a positive integer. Explain why

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} a^k b^{n-k} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} a^{n-k} b^k$$

11 Let a, b be real numbers, and n be a positive integer. Show that

$$(a+b)^{2n+1} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{2n+1}{k} (a^k b^{2n+1-k} + a^{2n+1-k} b^k)$$

12 In this questions, we are going to prove the binomial theorem using Mathematical Induction.

Let a, b be real numbers, and n be a positive integer.

(a) Let k and i be positive integers. Show that

$$\binom{k}{i-1} + \binom{k}{i} = \binom{k+1}{i}$$

(b) Using the result in part (a), show that for any positive integer n ,

$$(a+b)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} a^k b^{n-k}$$

. Hint: You can use the following fact.

$$\sum_{i=0}^k \binom{k}{i} a^{i+1} b^{k-i} = \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} \binom{k}{i-1} a^i b^{k+1-i}$$