

**Sequences**  
**Real Analysis**  
**Review Questions**

Instructor: Cesar Aguilar  
Department of Mathematics, SUNY Geneseo  
South 325A, [aguilar@geneseo.edu](mailto:aguilar@geneseo.edu)

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**Disclaimer:** This is a list of questions to guide you through your studies. Not everything that is asked in these questions will actually be tested (due to time constraints), and conversely, there might be a question that is tested that was not explicitly covered by these questions. Use these questions only as a supplement to the questions in the lecture notes/homework and don't feel like you need to answer every question here to be 100% ready for your test. **Solutions to these questions will not be provided.**

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1. The sequence  $(x_n)$  converges to  $L$  if \_\_\_\_\_.
2. A sequence  $(x_n)$  is bounded if \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Prove by definition that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+1}{n^2} = 0$ .
4. Prove by definition that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n^3+n}{n^3+4} = 2$ .
5. Prove by definition that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\cos(n)}{n^2-1} = 0$ .
6. Let  $(x_n)$  be a sequence and let  $L \in \mathbb{R}$ . Suppose that

$$|x_n - L| \leq \frac{1}{n^2} \quad \text{for all } n \geq 33$$

Prove by definition that  $(x_n)$  converges to  $L$ .

7. Prove that if  $(x_n)$  is convergent then it is bounded.
8. Suppose that  $(x_n) \rightarrow L$  and  $(y_n) \rightarrow M$ . Define the sequence  $z_n = 2x_n + 4y_n$ . Prove **by definition** that  $(z_n)$  converges to  $2L + 4M$ .
9. Suppose that  $(x_n) \rightarrow 0$  and suppose that  $(y_n)$  is bounded. Prove that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n y_n = 0$ .
10. Suppose that  $(x_n) \rightarrow L$ . Let  $(y_n)$  be a sequence such that for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $K \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|x_n - y_n| < \varepsilon$  for all  $n \geq K$ . Prove that  $(y_n)$  also converges to  $L$ .
11. Give examples of the following:
  - (a) Divergent sequences  $(x_n)$  and  $(y_n)$  such that  $z_n = x_n y_n$  converges.
  - (b) Divergent sequences  $(x_n)$  and  $(y_n)$  such that  $z_n = x_n y_n$  diverges.
  - (c) A divergent sequence  $(x_n)$  and a convergent sequence  $(y_n)$  such that  $z_n = x_n y_n$  converges.
  - (d) A divergent sequence  $(x_n)$  and a convergent sequence  $(y_n)$  such that  $z_n = x_n y_n$  diverges.
12. Use the Limit Theorems to prove that if  $(x_n)$  converges and  $(x_n + y_n)$  converges then  $(y_n)$  converges. Give an example of two sequences  $(x_n)$  and  $(y_n)$  such that **both**  $(x_n)$  and  $(y_n)$  diverge but  $(x_n + y_n)$  converges.
13. State the Monotone Convergence Theorem (MCT).
14. True or false, a convergent sequence is necessarily monotone? If it is true then prove it, or if it is false then give an example of a convergent sequence that is not monotone.
15. Give an example of a monotone sequence that diverges.
16. Give an example of a bounded sequence that diverges.
17. Consider the sequence  $(x_n)$  defined as  $x_1 = 1$  and  $x_{n+1} = \frac{n}{8n+1} x_n^4$  for  $n \geq 1$ .

- (a) Prove that  $0 \leq x_n \leq 1$  for all  $n \geq 1$ .
- (b) Prove that  $(x_n)$  is monotone.
- (c) What theorem allows you to conclude that  $(x_n)$  is convergent?
- (d) If  $L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n$ , is it possible for  $L > 1$ ? Explain.
- (e) Find  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n$ .
18. We proved that **if**  $(x_n)$  converges to  $L$  **then**  $(|x_n|)$  converges to  $|L|$ . The converse, however, is not true. Find an example of a sequence  $(x_n)$  such that  $(|x_n|)$  converges but  $(x_n)$  is divergent.
19. Prove that if  $(x_n)$  converges to  $L$  then every subsequence of  $(x_n)$  converges to  $L$ .
20. Suppose that  $(x_n)$  is an increasing sequence and let  $(x_{n_k})$  be a subsequence of  $(x_n)$ .
- (a) Prove that if  $(x_{n_k})$  is bounded above then  $(x_n)$  is also bounded above.
- (b) Are  $(x_{n_k})$  and  $(x_n)$  convergent? Why?
- (c) Is it necessarily true that  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x_{n_k} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n$ ? Why?
21. Suppose that  $(x_n)$  is a decreasing sequence and let  $(x_{n_k})$  be a subsequence of  $(x_n)$ .
- (a) Prove that if  $(x_{n_k})$  is bounded below then  $(x_n)$  is also bounded below.
- (b) Are  $(x_{n_k})$  and  $(x_n)$  convergent? Why?
- (c) Is it necessarily true that  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} x_{n_k} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n$ ? Why?
22. State the Bolzano-Weierstrass Theorem.
23. Show directly that if  $(x_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence then it is bounded.
24. Show that if  $(x_n)$  is convergent then it is a Cauchy sequence.
25. Suppose that  $(x_n)$  and  $(y_n)$  are sequences such that  $|x_m - x_n| \leq |y_m - y_n|$  for all  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Show that if the sequence  $(y_n)$  is convergent then so is the sequence  $(x_n)$ .
26. Let  $0 < r < 1$ . Show that if the sequence  $(x_n)$  satisfies  $|x_n - x_{n+1}| < r^n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  then  $(x_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence and therefore convergent.