

Compound Interest Worksheet

Complete this worksheet in class. *No answers will be provided.* Please check your work with a friend, or the instructor. You will need to use a calculator for most of the questions.

Question 0.1 Simple interest is interest paid on the principal only. At the end of each term, you receive interest on your principal. Suppose that you invest 200\$ with a bank promising 6% interest yearly. Complete the following table:

Year n	Value $V(n)$	Difference $V(n) - V(n - 1)$
0	200	Undefined.
1		
2		
3		

Question 0.2 Write a formula for the simple interest earned on P dollars of principle, with annual interest rate r , over a term of n years. Use your formula to determine the amount of money you need to invest so as to have \$1000 in five years with an interest rate of % 2.

Question 0.3 Compound interest is interest paid on the principal and all earned interest. Suppose you get a % 3 interest compounded annually on an investment of \$100. Complete the following table:

Year n	Principal $P(n)$	Difference $P(n) - P(n - 1)$
0	100	Undefined.
1		
2		
3		

Question 0.4 Write a formula for the future value of P dollars of principle, with annual interest rate r , over a term of n years. Use your formula to determine the amount of money you need to invest now in order to have \$100,000 in 20 years with an interest rate of %2 compounded annually.

Question 0.5 An annual percentage rate¹ is a compound interest rate which is subdivided and compounded at equally sized intervals. Consider an investment of 500\$ with a 3% annual percentage rate. Complete the following table:

<i>Compounded t times</i>	<i>Value at one year</i>
$t = 1$	<i>Annually</i>
$t = 2$	<i>Semi-annually</i>
$t = 4$	<i>Quarterly</i>
$t = 12$	<i>Monthly</i>
$t = 365$	<i>Daily</i>
$t =$	<i>Hourly</i>
$t =$	<i>“Minute-ly”</i>

Question 0.6 Jacob Bernoulli (1655-1705) discovered the mathematical constant $e \simeq 2.71828$ by the following method: Determine the value of \$1 invested at 100% APR compounded at each instant in time for a period of one year. To follow in Bernoulli’s (gigantic) footsteps: (i) write a formula for the value of \$ P invested at rate $r\%$ APR compounded t times, and (ii) let t go to infinity.

¹There are many different interpretations of APR loans and investments. It’s a mess.