




<b>Assess your learning – Difference Equations</b> Rate your understanding of this chapter ( <i>be honest!</i> )	 No	 Kinda	 Yes	Revised for <b>Week            10 Exam</b>	Revised for <b>Mock            Exam</b>
I can solve first order difference equations. <b>E.g.</b> (i) Solve the difference equation $T_n = \frac{1}{4}T_{n-1} + 3$ , given that $T_0 = 28$ . (ii) Show that $T_n$ tends to a limit as $n \rightarrow \infty$ .					
I can solve problems involving interest payments using Difference Equations. <b>E.g.</b> A man borrows €350,000 to buy a house and agrees to repay the same amount $A$ for each month for 20 years. The bank charges a monthly interest rate of 0.25%. (i) Write down a difference equation in $D_n$ , if $D_n$ is the amount of debt owing after $n$ months. (ii) Solve the difference equation and find the value of $A$ .					
I can solve second order homogeneous equations. <b>E.g.</b> Solve $6T_{n+1} = 5T_n - T_{n-1}$ , given that $T_0 = 8$ and $T_1 = 3$ .					
I can solve second order inhomogeneous equations. <b>E.g.</b> Solve the difference equation $u_{n+2} - 4u_{n+1} + 4u_n = 8n - 3$ , given that $u_0 = 5$ and $u_1 = 18$					
I can solve word problems involving difference equations. <b>E.g.</b> The population of bees in a hive was given by $P_0 = 250$ last year. This year it has dropped to $P_1 = 180$ . A beekeeper estimates that $P_n$ , the hive's population after $n$ years, follows the difference equation $P_n = \frac{1}{15}\{24P_{n-1} - 5P_{n-2}\}$ . Solve this difference equation and estimate the population of bees in 15 years' time.					