



- TG** **9** Two players  $A$  and  $B$  play a series of games against each other to get a prize. In any  
**PC** game, either of the players is equally likely to win. To begin with, the first player  
 who wins a total of 5 games gets the prize.
- 15** **14** (i) Explain why the probability of player  $A$  getting the prize in exactly 7 games **1**  
**X** **c** is  $\binom{6}{4} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^7$ .
- (ii) Write an expression for the probability of player  $A$  getting the prize in at **1**  
 most 7 games.
- (iii) Suppose now that the prize is given to the first player to win a total of **2**  
 $(n + 1)$  games, where  $n$  is a positive integer.  
 By considering the probability that  $A$  gets the prize, prove that  

$$\binom{n}{n} 2^n + \binom{n+1}{n} 2^{n-1} + \binom{n+2}{n} 2^{n-2} + \dots + \binom{2n}{n} 2^n = 2^{2n} .$$

- (i) The seventh game is won by player  $A$ . This means that  $A$  wins 4 of the first 6 games.

$$\text{Let } p = P(A \text{ not wins}) = \frac{1}{2} \qquad \text{Let } q = P(A \text{ wins}) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P(A \text{ wins 4 of first 6}) = \binom{6}{4} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore P(A \text{ wins 4 of first 6 games and the 7th game}) &= \binom{6}{4} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 \times \frac{1}{2} \\ &= \binom{6}{4} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^7 \end{aligned}$$

State Mean:  
**0.19**

(ii) 
$$P(\text{prize after 5, 6 or 7 games}) = \binom{4}{4} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^5 + \binom{5}{4} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^6 + \binom{6}{4} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^7$$

State Mean:  
**0.23**

- (iii) If a prize after  $(n + 1)$  games, then there is a possible  $2n$  number of games before a player wins the prize. Also, [as  $P(A \text{ wins}) = P(B \text{ wins}) = \frac{1}{2}$ ]

$$P(A \text{ eventually wins the prize}) = \binom{n}{n} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n+1} + \binom{n+1}{n} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n+2} + \dots + \binom{2n}{n} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{2n+1} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Now as  $2^{-1} = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $2^{-1} \times 2^{2n+1} = 2^{2n}$ , then multiply both sides by  $2^{2n+1}$ :

$$\therefore \binom{n}{n} 2^n + \binom{n+1}{n} 2^{n-1} + \binom{n+2}{n} 2^{n-2} + \dots + \binom{2n}{n} 2^n = 2^{2n}$$

State Mean:  
**0.17**

\* These solutions have been provided by [projectmaths](http://projectmaths.com.au) and are not supplied or endorsed by NESA.

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