

## Lesson Worksheet 7.2A(II)

*Objective: To solve problems involving constant growth rates.*

If a quantity grows at a **constant rate** of  $r\%$  per **period**, then  
 若一個量在每個時期以固定的率  $r\%$  增長，則

$$\text{new value after } n \text{ periods} = \text{original value} \times (1 + r\%)^n$$

$$n \text{ 期後的新值} = \text{原值} \times (1 + r\%)^n$$

- $r\%$  is called the **growth rate**.  $r\%$  稱為增長率。
- $(1 + r\%)$  is called the **growth factor**.  $(1 + r\%)$  稱為增長因子。

1. Vivian is 170 cm tall now and her height has **increased by 3.5%** every half year over the past two years. How tall was Vivian two years ago?  
 (Give the answer correct to the nearest cm.)

Let  $x$  cm be the height of Vivian two years ago.

$$x(1 + \underline{3.5\%})^{\underline{4}} = \underline{170}$$

$$1.035^4 x = 170$$

$$x = \underline{148}, \text{ corr. to the nearest integer}$$

∴ Vivian was 148 cm tall two years ago.

### Demonstration

Jacky weighs 130 lb now. His weight has increased by 2% every half year over the past three years. Find the weight of Jacky three years ago.

(Give the answer correct to the nearest lb.)

### Solution

Let  $x$  lb be the weight of Jacky three years ago.

$$x(1 + 2\%)^6 = 130 \quad \leftarrow \text{3 years means 6 half years}$$

$$1.02^6 x = 130$$

$$x = 115, \text{ cor. to the nearest integer}$$

2. The present monthly salary of Cathy is \$28 500. Over the past three years, her monthly salary has increased at a constant rate of 4.5% per year. Find the monthly salary of Cathy three years ago.  
 (Give the answer correct to the nearest hundred dollars.)

Let  $\$x$  be the monthly salary of Cathy three years ago.

$$x(1 + \underline{4.5\%})^{\underline{3}} = \underline{28500}$$

$$1.045^3 x = 28\,500$$

$$x = \underline{25000}, \text{ corr. to the nearest hundred}$$

∴ The monthly salary of Cathy was \$ 25000 three years ago.

Set up an equation to find the monthly salary of Cathy three years ago.