Exploring Geometric Sequences	IB® EXAM STYLE QUESTION
Topic 1: Number and Algebra	Geometric Sequences and Series

1		
	(a) When a ball bounces, it reaches 90% of the height reached on the previous bounce. If the ball is initially dropped at 5 meters, find the height the ball reaches after the 5th bounce.	(2 marks)
	(b) Find the number of bounces it would take to no longer reach a height of 2 meters.	(2 marks)
	(c) Find the total distance the ball travels	(3 marks)
Mark	scheme:	
	(a) height = $5 * 0.90^5$	(A1)
	height = 2.95 meters	(A1)
	(b) $5 * 0.90^n < 2$	(M1)
	$0.90^n < 0.4$	
	$n > \log_{0.90} 0.4$	(A1)
	$n > 8.69672 \dots$	
	n = 9	(A1)
	(c) Method 1: Recognizing this as a geometric series to infinity	

First term of $5 * 0.90$	
Common ratio $= 0.90$	(M1)

Recognizing the need to double the distance and add 5	(M1)
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Total Distance:
$$2\left(\frac{5*0.90}{1-0.90}\right) + 5 = 95$$
 meters (A1)

Method 2: Recognizing this as a geometric series to infinity First term of 5



Common Ratio $= 0.90$	(M1)
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Recognizing the need to double the distance and subtract 5 (M1)

Total Distance:
$$2\left(\frac{5}{1-0.90}\right) - 5 = 95$$
 meters (A1)