IMC Sequences

1. [IMC 2012 Q17] The first term of a sequence of positive integers is 6. The other terms in the sequence follow these rules:

if a term is even then divide it by 2 to obtain the next term

if a term is odd then multiply it by 5 and subtract 1 to obtain the next term.

For which values of n is the nth term equal to n?

A 10 only

B 13 only

C 16 only

D 10 and 13 only

E 13 and 16 only

(This was the only harder sequences question in the IMC between 2004 and 2012. See the Olympiad collection for more sequences questions)

Answers

1. E