

Math History for Precalculus

Joseph Fourier

1. When did Joseph Fourier (foor YAY) live?
2. Where was he from?
3. From what religious group did he obtain his education?
4. Fourier accompanied Napoleon to Egypt. How long was he there, and what did he do?
5. After Fourier returned to France, what area of physics did he study?
6. Name his most famous work, which he wrote in Paris on the subject above.
7. When was this published?

In this work, Fourier made use of a series such as you studied in this chapter. His most useful series, however, involved calculus concepts.

8. Identify which trig functions are used in finding a Fourier series.

Two other men developed important series that involve series. Give the time and place that each of them lived.

9. Brook Taylor, who studied the Taylor series.
10. Colin Maclaurin, who studied the Maclaurin series.