Problem 6

Use the preliminary test to decide whether the following series are divergent or require further testing. *Careful:* Do *not* say that a series is convergent; the preliminary test cannot decide this.

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n!}{(n+1)!}$$

Solution

Take the limit of the summand as $n \to \infty$.

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{n!}{(n+1)!} = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{n!}{(n+1)n!}$$
$$= \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{n+1}$$
$$= 0$$

Since it's zero, no conclusion can be drawn. Further testing is needed.