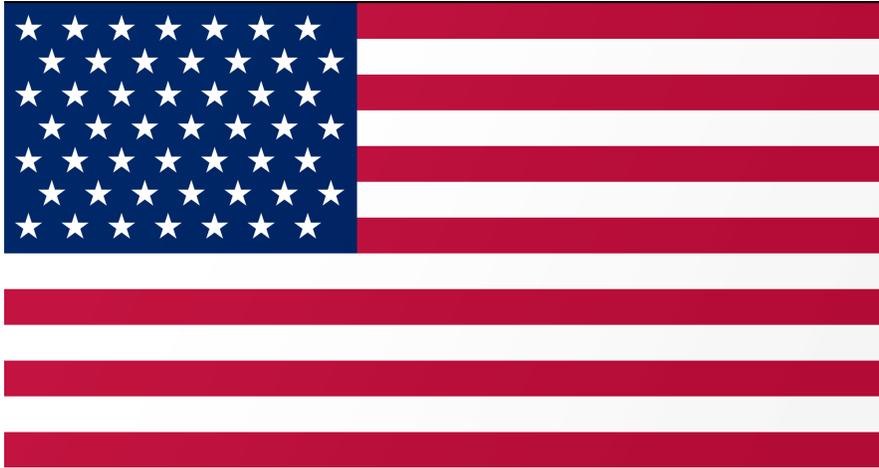


Sets and Venn Diagrams Part 1
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Warm-up:

What colors do we see on the American Flag?



Today, we're going to be talking about *sets*. A *set* is a clearly defined collection of distinct objects. Note that this is not really a definition. To define means to explain in simpler terms. Instead, all we do is replace one word, a *set*, by another, a *collection*. Plus, the meaning of the words to clearly define is not clearly defined. The problem is that the notion of a set is as fundamental as it is deep. It is impossible to explain it in simpler terms. The best we can do at the moment is to show a bunch of examples.

Problem 1: Let's start by considering the factors of 6.

a. *What are these factors?*

i. _____

b. We can introduce notation to represent them, *a set*. This will be written with *curly braces*, { and }. In a set, the order doesn't matter. Let's write the set of factors of 6 and call it S.

$$S = \{ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \}$$

- c. Let's order these factors from smallest to largest. (Don't forget the curly braces)

$$S_1 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

- d. We can introduce another set of notation, an **ordered set or a list**. This is given by *round brackets*, (and), or *parentheses*.

- i. *What do you think is the difference between a **set** and a **list**?*

- ii. Let's write the list of factors of 6 from least to greatest. (Don't forget the braces)

$$L_1 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

- e. Consider the two sets and two lists of letters:

$$S_1 = \{C, A, T\} \qquad S_2 = \{A, C, T\}$$

$$L_1 = (C, A, T) \qquad L_2 = (A, C, T)$$

- i. *Does $S_1 = S_2$? How do you know?*

- ii. *Does $L_1 = L_2$? How do you know?*

- f. *Returning to the warmup, if we let S_c be the set of colors of the American flag, what is in S_c ?*

g. All the sets we've seen so far have something contained within it. What if a set does not contain any elements?

i. *What do we call a set without any elements?*

ii. We will represent the _____ as \emptyset .

iii. {A set of pigs that can fly by themselves.} = _____

iv. Give your own description and example of the empty set.

Notation:

\in : The fact that the number 6 is an element of the set S_1 is denoted as $6 \in S_1$. The fact the 7 is not an element of the set S_1 is denoted as $7 \notin S_1$.

\subseteq : For two sets S_1 and S_2 , if every element of S_2 is also an element of S_1 , then S_2 is a **subset** of S_1 . In mathematical language, we write this as $S_2 \subseteq S_1$.

\subset : A subset of a set is called **proper** if it is not empty and is not equal to the original set.

Note: The notations \subset and \subseteq for sets are analogous to $<$ and \leq for numbers.

Problem 2: Some very special sets.

b. In the past, we've explored natural numbers. *What are natural numbers?*

c. We can put all of the natural numbers into a set and give it a special symbol: \mathbb{N} .

i. *Is 0 a part of the set of natural numbers? If not, how do you write it in mathematical language?*

- i. *Is N a subset of N?* _____
- ii. *Is Z a subset of Z?* _____
- iii. *Is N a proper subset of Z?* If so, let's change our comparison to reflect this:

$$N \text{ _____ } Z$$

- g. Can we find all of the elements of Z in Q? How can we use notation to compare the two sets? *Is Z a proper subset of Q?*

$$Z \text{ _____ } Q$$

Problem 3:

$$S_1 = \{C, A, T\} \quad S_2 = \{A, C, T\}$$

- a. *Is S_1 a subset of S_2 ? Is S_1 a proper subset of S_2 ?*

- b. *Write down all the proper subsets of the set of colors of the US flag. Do they form a set? A list?*

- c. Consider the set $S_3 = \{ \text{cat, horse, lion, tiger, 0, 5, 100, dog} \}$. Find the following subsets:

- i. Subset of numbers = _____
- ii. Subset of animals = _____
- iii. Subset of animals whose names contain the letter l = _____
- iv. Subset of common pets = _____

v. Subset of colors = _____

Red Hot Chilli Pepper

Move one digit to make the equality $101 - 102 = 1$ correct

Problem 4: The number of elements in a set is called its *cardinality*. In math language, we can write the cardinality of a set A as either $|A|$ or $\text{card}(A)$. We will use the former notation.

a. *Let U be the set of states in the United States. What is $|U|$?*

b. *What is $|\{0\}|$? Why?*

c. *What is $|\emptyset|$?*

Next Time: Sets are a very important and useful idea. We can use this idea to mathematically explain a certain diagram we have previously explored: Venn Diagrams.

Challenge Questions

- a. Decide which of the following two fractions is greater without cross-multiplying or bringing to the common denominator.

$$\frac{2017}{2018} \text{ or } \frac{2018}{2019}$$

- b. Given the sets below, find which sets are subsets of another (Use the notation we have learned so far):
- A = set of all flowers
 - B = set of all red objects
 - C = set of all tulips
 - D = set of all balloons
 - E = set of all things you can use for birthday decorations
-
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- c. Consider the following sets:

$$A = \{\text{cat, horse, lion, tiger, 0, 5, 100, dog}\}$$

$$B = \{1, 5, 100, \text{panda, mouse, seahorse, lion}\}$$

- i. Can you make a new set that contains elements that are found both in A and B?

- ii. Can you make a new set that contains elements that are found in either A or B?

d. How many subsets, including the empty set and the set proper, does a set A of the following cardinality have?

i. 2

ii. 3

iii. 4

iv. 5

v. Do you see a pattern?

e. Given $|A| = n$, prove that the cardinality of the set of all the subsets of A is 2^n .