

Ch 2.1 Sets

Terms: The objects in a set are called the elements, or members, of the set. A set is said to contain its elements.

Notation: We use upper case letters to denote sets, e.g. $A, B, C, X, \dots$

Example: For the set $A = \{a, b, 3, 5\}$. The members of this set are _____.

Def: Two sets are equal if and only if they have the same elements.

Examples: Let $A = \{1, 2, 5\}$, $B = \{1, 2, 3\}$, and $C = \{5, 2, 1\}$. Sets A and C are equal (note the order does not matter), but no other combinations in this example are equal.

Notation/Definitions:

1. $\in$ is read as "is an element of".

Example: Let $A = \{1, 2, 5\}$. $1 \in A$, $2 \in A$, but $3 \notin A$.

2. If a set is finite or has a pattern then the set can be described by listing the elements. But a more general way to describe a set is by the use of set builder notation.

Examples:

- i. $R = \{x \mid x \text{ is a real number} \}$

(The braces indicate a set and the vertical bar is read as "such that")

This is read as " the set of all x such that x is a real number "

- ii. $O = \{x \mid x \text{ is an odd positive integer less than } 10\}$

This is read as " the set of all x such that x is an odd positive integer less than 10 ".

(Note this set could have been listed $O = \{ 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 \}$.)

3. The universal set, which we will denote as U , is the set of all objects under consideration in a given problem.
4. A set A is said to be a subset of set B if and only if every element of A is also an element of B .

In notation this is: $A \subseteq B \leftrightarrow \forall x(x \in A \rightarrow x \in B)$.

A is **not a subset** of B in notation: $A \not\subseteq B \leftrightarrow \exists x(x \in A \wedge x \notin B)$

Proof:

$A \not\subseteq B \leftrightarrow$	
$\neg \forall x(x \in A \rightarrow x \in B) \leftrightarrow$	By the negation of the definition of subset
$\exists x \neg(x \in A \rightarrow x \in B) \leftrightarrow$	By the negation of the universal quantifier.
$\exists x \neg(x \notin A \vee x \in B) \leftrightarrow$	Since $(p \rightarrow q) \leftrightarrow (\neg p \vee q)$
$\exists x(x \in A \wedge x \notin B)$	??

End of Proof.

Examples: Let $A = \{a, b, c\}$, $B = \{a, b, c, d\}$, $C = \{b, c, d\}$, and $D = \{c, b, a\}$. **Fill in the blank with the subset symbol or the not a subset of symbol.**

A		B
C		B
A		C
D		B
D		A

5. $\emptyset$ represents the **empty set** or **null set**, which is defined as the set with no elements.

Fact: Let the universal set be the collection of all sets.

$$\forall A, \emptyset \subseteq A.$$

Proof:

6. **Corollary.** A nonempty set has at least two subsets.

7. Let S be a set. If there are exactly n distinct elements in S , where n is a nonnegative integer, we say S is a **finite set** and n is the **cardinality** of S . The cardinality of S is denoted by $|S|$. A set is said to be **infinite** if it is not finite.

Examples: 1. Let $A = \{1, 2, 5\}$. Then $|A| = 3$.

2. Let S be the set of letters in the English alphabet.

Then $|S| = 26$.

3. $|\emptyset| = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ 4. $|\{\emptyset\}| = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

5. $|\{1000\}| = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ 6. $|\{\infty\}| = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

7. $|\{1, 2, \dots, 1000\}| = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ 8. $|\{1, 2, 1000\}| = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

Definition: Given a set S , the **power set of S** is the set of all subsets of the set S . The power set of S is denoted by $P(S)$.

Fact to be proven later: If $|A| = n$, then $|P(A)| = 2^n$.

Examples:

1. Let $A = \{a, b, c\}$. Describe $P(A)$.

Solution: $P(A) = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{b, c\}, \{a, b, c\}\}$.

Note just as describe in the fact above this power set has $2^3 = 8$ elements.

2. **You try.** Let $B = \{0, 1\}$. Describe $P(B)$.

3. $P(\emptyset) = ?$

4. Let A be any set. True/False.

1.	$\emptyset \subseteq A$	
2.	$\{\emptyset\} \subseteq A$	
3.	$\emptyset \subseteq P(A)$	
4.	$\{\emptyset\} \subseteq P(A)$	
5.	$\emptyset \in A$	
6.	$\{a\} \in A$	
7.	$\{a\} \subseteq A$	
8.	$\{a\} \in P(A)$	
9.	$\{a\} \subseteq P(A)$	
10.	$\{\{a\}\} \subseteq P(A)$	

Definition: The **ordered n-tuple** $(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n)$ is the ordered collection that has a_1 as its first element, a_2 as its second element, ..., and a_n as its n^{th} element.

Definition: $(a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n) = (b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n)$ if and only if $(a_1 = b_1) \wedge (a_2 = b_2) \wedge \dots \wedge (a_n = b_n)$

Terminology: (a_1, a_2) is called an **ordered pair**.
 (a_1, a_2, a_3) is called an **ordered triple**.

Definition: Let A and B be sets. The **Cartesian Product of A and B**, denoted $A \times B$, is the set of all ordered pairs (a, b) where $a \in A$ and $b \in B$.

Hence in set builder notation, the cartesian product is

$$A \times B = \{(a, b) \mid a \in A \wedge b \in B\}.$$

Example: Let $A = \{a, b\}$ and $B = \{0, 1, 2\}$. Find $A \times B$ and $B \times A$.

Def: Generalized Cartesian Product: Let $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$ be sets.

$$A_1 \times A_2 \times \dots \times A_n = \{(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \mid (a_1 \in A_1) \wedge (a_2 \in A_2) \wedge \dots \wedge (a_n \in A_n)\}$$