

3

Set Relations

Objectives:

After reading and completing this module, you will be able to do these:

- ✓ Compare sets, using the terms: a) equal and equivalent, b) joint and disjoint.
- ✓ Determine the subsets of a given set.



LESSON PROPER

EQUAL SETS

- Two sets A and B are equal, written as $A = B$, if and only if they contain exactly the same elements.

Example:

Consider the sets

$$X = \{a, m, y\}$$

$$Y = \{y, m, a\}$$

$$Z = \{l, a, y\}$$

$$W = \{ma, y\}$$

X has 3 elements namely a, m, y in alphabetical order.

Y has 3 elements namely a, m, y in reverse alphabetical order.

X and Y are equal sets.

Elements in both sets need not be of the same order.

$X \neq Z$, why?

Because there is an element in X that is not present in Z, and vice-versa.

(m is not an element of Z and l is not an element of X)

$Y \neq W$, why?

Because Y has 3 elements namely y, m, a while W has 2 elements namely ma and y.

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EQUIVALENT SETS

- Two sets A and B are equivalent, written $A \sim B$, if and only if they have the same cardinal number;
that is $n(A) = n(B)$.

Example:

$L = \{\text{Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao}\}$

$M = \{\text{red, white, blue}\}$

$I = \{\text{red, blue, white}\}$

$n(L) = 3$, $n(M) = 3$ and $n(I) = 3$.

Since sets L, M and I have the same cardinal number which is 3, then, sets L, M, and I are equivalent.

Are there equal sets in the given example above? (*Yes, $M = I$*)

JOINT SETS AND DISJOINT SETS

- Two sets A and B are disjoint sets if and only if they have no common element, otherwise they are joint sets.

Example:

$E = \{2, 4, 6, 8, 10\}$

$O = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 11\}$

$A = \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13\}$

Set E and set O are **disjoint** sets since they have no common element.

Set A and set O are joint sets since they have some common elements. Some elements of set O are also members of set A.

Set E and set A are joint sets since the elements of set O are also members of set A.

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SUBSETS

- Given sets A and B, A is a subset of B if every element of A is an element of B. In symbols, we write $A \subseteq B$ (read as “A is a subset of B”). We say that $A \subseteq B$ if and only if, for every $x \in A$, $x \in B$.

Example:

Given: $U = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$ $X = \{a, c, e\}$ $Y = \{a, c, b, e, d\}$

$$X \subseteq Y$$

$$X \subseteq U$$

$$Y \subseteq U$$

The elements of set X are contained in set Y.

The elements of set X are contained in set U.

The elements of set Y are contained in set U.

PROPER SUBSET

- If $A \subset B$ and $A \neq B$, we say that A is a proper subset of B, denoted by $A \subset B$. The symbol $A \subset B$ means that every element of A belongs to B and B contains at least one element not found in A.

Example:

1.) Given: $K = \{8, 12, 16\}$ $L = \{8, 12, 16, 20\}$ $M = \{8, 12, 16, 20, 22, 23\}$

$$K \subseteq L$$

All elements of K are contained in set L. L contains an element (20) not found in K.

$$K \subseteq M$$
 All elements of K are contained in set M. M contains elements not found in K.

$$L \subseteq M$$
 All elements of L are contained in set M. M contains elements not found in K.

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2.) If $C = \{a, b, c\}$, name all subsets of C.

Solution:

$\{a\}$ $\{b\}$ $\{c\}$ $\{a, b\}$ $\{a, c\}$ $\{b, c\}$ $\{a, b, c\}$ $\{ \}$

NUMBER OF SUBSETS

- The number of subsets of any given set may be determined by the formula 2^n , where n denotes the cardinality of the number of elements of the set.

Example

Sets	Cardinality	Subsets	Number of Subsets
$\{1\}$	1	$\{ \}, \{1\}$	2
$\{0, 1\}$	2	$\{ \}, \{0\}, \{1\}, \{0, 1\}$	4
$\{2, 4, 6\}$	3	$\{2\}, \{4\}, \{6\}, \{2, 4\}, \{2, 6\}, \{4, 6\}, \{2, 4, 6\}, \{ \}$	8
	n		2^n