

# MAT2440, Classwork16, Spring2025

ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## 1. Definition of A Set:

A set is an **unordered** collection of **distinct** objects. It is common for sets denoted using uppercase letters. Each object is called members or elements of the set and denoted using lowercase letters.

2. Let  $A$  be a set and  $a$  and  $b$  be two elements. Then we have  $a \in A$  means "a" is an element of A <sup>belongs to</sup> and  $b \notin A$  means b is not an element of A.   
b doesn't belong to A " a belongs to A.

## 3. Unordered and Distinct:

Unordered :  $V = \{a, e, i, o, u\} = \{a, i, u, o, e\}$ .

Distinct :  $T = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\} = \{1, 3, 3, 3, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 9\}$ .

$\{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\} \neq \{1, 3, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$

4. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two sets. Then we say  $A$  and  $B$  are **equal**, denoted by  $A = B$ , if and only if  $\forall x (x \in A \leftrightarrow x \in B)$ .

$\{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$

## 5. How to describe a set: Roster Method and Set Builder

Roster Method : listing all the elements of a set when this is possible.  $\rightarrow \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 98, 99\}$

Set builder : stating the properties of the elements in the set.

such that  $\{x \mid x \text{ has property } P\}$  <sup>(notation)</sup>  $\{x \mid 0 < x < 100, \text{ and } x \text{ is an integer}\}$

6. Describe the set of odd positive integers less than 10 by (a) roster method, and (b) set builder.

(a)  $\{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$

(b)  $\{x \mid x \text{ is an odd integer, } 0 < x < 10\}$

7. Some commonly used sets notations:

$\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ , the set of all natural numbers.

$\mathbb{Z} = \{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  the set of all integers.

$\mathbb{Z}^+ = \{1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$ , the set of all positive integers.

$\mathbb{Q} = \left\{ \frac{a}{b} \mid a \in \mathbb{Z}, b \in \mathbb{Z}, b \neq 0 \right\}$ , the set of all rational numbers.

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

$\mathbb{C} = \{x \mid x \text{ is a complex number}\}$ .

8. The elements of a set can be sets:

Let  $A = \{1\}$ ,  $B = \{1, 2\}$ , and  $C = \{1, 2, 3\}$ . Then  $S = \{A, B, C\} = \{\{1\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 2, 3\}\}$ .

9. The Empty Set  $\emptyset$ :

If a set has no element, then it is called the empty set, or null set. It is denoted by  $\phi$ , and  $\emptyset = \{\}$ .

10. The **Finite** Set and its **Cardinality**:  $S = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$  and the cardinality of  $S$  is 5.

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

11. Find the cardinalities for the given finite sets:

(a) If  $A$  is the set of odd positive integers less than 10, then  $|A| = \underline{5}$ .  
 $\{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$

(b) If  $S$  is the set of letters in English alphabet, then  $|S| = \underline{26}$ .  
 $\{a, b, c, d, \dots, x, y, z\}$

(c) The empty set  $\emptyset$ :  $|\emptyset| = \underline{0}$ .

(d) If  $E = \{\emptyset\}$  which is a set whose element is an empty set, then  $|E| = \underline{1}$ .  
 $= \{\{\}\} = \{\emptyset\}$