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# Sets

Understanding Sets: The Foundation of Mathematics

## DEFINITION

A set is a collection of distinct objects, considered as an object in its own right. Sets can contain numbers, letters, or even other sets.

## KEY CONCEPTS

### Elements

Elements are the individual items in a set, typically denoted by lowercase letters.

### Subset

A subset is a set whose elements all belong to another set, denoted by '⊆'.

### Union

The union of two sets combines all unique elements from both sets, denoted by '∪'.

### Intersection

The intersection of two sets includes only the elements that are present in both sets, denoted by '∩'.

### Complement

The complement of a set includes all elements not in the set, relative to a universal set.

## EXAMPLES

→ Set A = {1, 2, 3}, Set B = {2, 3, 4}

→ Union of A and B = {1, 2, 3, 4}

→ Intersection of A and B = {2, 3}

## MEMORY TIPS

★ Remember 'U' for Union as it looks like a cup combining elements.

★ Think of '∩' as two overlapping circles for Intersection.

★ Use 'C' for Complement, as it completes the set with missing elements.

## COMMON MISTAKES

✗ Confusing union with intersection.

✗ Not recognizing that sets do not allow duplicate elements.

✗ Misidentifying subsets by including elements not in the parent set.

## QUICK RECAP

Sets are essential in mathematics, representing collections of distinct objects. Understanding operations like union, intersection, and subsets is crucial for solving problems involving sets.