

## Topic 3: Sets

### 1) The Basics:

#### a) Sets Symbols:

For the following symbols sets A and B are:

$U = \{a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k\}$  \*U = Universal Set  
 $A = \{a, c, e, f, g\}$  and  $B = \{c, d, f, h, k\}$

- 1)  $\cap$ : **Intersection**: elements that both sets have in common.  
e.g.  $A \cap B = \{c, f\}$
- 2)  $\cup$ : **Union**: the elements in both sets listed once.  
e.g.  $A \cup B = \{a, c, d, e, f, g, h, k\}$
- 3)  $\in$ : **is an element of**  
e.g.  $g \in A$  and  $k \in B$
- 4)  $\notin$ : **is not an element of**  
e.g.  $p \notin A$  and  $r \notin B$
- 5)  $\emptyset$  or  $\{\}$ : **null set or empty set**  
e.g. if D is the set of days of the week beginning with a 'G'  
then  $D = \{\}$  or  $D = \emptyset$
- 6)  $\subset$ : **is a subset of**  
If all the elements of a set are contained in another set then one set is a subset of the other.  
e.g.  $\{c, g\} \subset A$ .....because c and g are in set A
- 7)  $'$ : **complement**: elements that are **NOT** in a set.  
e.g.  $A' = \{b, d, h, i, j, k\}$  and  $B' = \{a, b, e, g, i, j\}$

#### 8) $A \setminus B$ : Less or Set Difference (can also use $A - B$ )

- What elements are in set A that are **NOT** in set B?
- Order is important i.e.  $A \setminus B \neq B \setminus A$   
e.g.  $A \setminus B = \{a, e, g\}$  and  $B \setminus A = \{d, h, k\}$

9)  $\#$ : **Cardinal Number**: number of elements in a set  
e.g.  $\#A = 5$  and  $\#U = 11$

#### b) Venn Diagrams:

- **2 Set Diagrams:**

