

Set Theory Symbols

\in “is an element of”

\notin “is not an element of”

\subset “is a *proper* subset of”

\subseteq “is a subset of”

$\not\subset$ “is not a subset of”

\emptyset the empty set; a set with no elements

\cap intersection

\cup union

\overline{A} or A' “the compliment of A ”; all elements not in A

$A - B$ all elements in A but not in B

$n(A)$ “the number of elements in A ”

$A = B$ “ A is equal to B ”; A and B contain the same elements

$A \cong B$ “ A is equivalent to B ”; A and B contain the same number of elements

Examples: $U = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$ $A = \{0, 2, 4, 6, 8\}$ $B = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$

Statements 1 through 5 are all true.

1) $2 \in A$ 2 is an element of A

2) $3 \notin A$ 3 is not an element of A

3) $A \subset U$ A is a proper subset of U

4) $A \not\subset B$ A is not a subset of B

5) $A \cong B$ A is equivalent to B , both sets contain 5 elements

$A \cap B = \{0, 2, 4\}$ all elements in A and B ; what the sets have in common

$A \cup B = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8\}$ all elements in A or B ; combine the sets, don't list anything twice