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## Workshop 1

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1. Which of the following containments is true? Circle those which are correct.

$$\boxed{\mathbb{N} \subseteq \mathbb{W}}$$

$$\mathbb{N} \supseteq \mathbb{W}$$

$$\boxed{\mathbb{W} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}}$$

$$\mathbb{Q} \supseteq \mathbb{H}$$

$$\mathbb{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{W}$$

$$\mathbb{Z} \supseteq \mathbb{Q}$$

$$\boxed{\mathbb{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{R}}$$

$$\boxed{\mathbb{H} \subseteq \mathbb{R}}$$

2. State the containment relations between the reals  $\mathbb{R}$ , naturals  $\mathbb{N}$ , integers  $\mathbb{Z}$ , wholes  $\mathbb{W}$  and rationals  $\mathbb{Q}$ . They will be of the form  $A \subseteq B \subseteq C \subseteq D \subseteq E$ . Are they proper containments?

$$\boxed{\mathbb{N} \subseteq \mathbb{W} \subseteq \mathbb{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{R}, \quad \text{Yes, proper.}}$$

3. The commutative property states that  $a + b = b + a$  and  $ab = ba$  for all real numbers  $a$  and  $b$ . What is the statement of the associative property?

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} a + (b + c) &= (a + b) + c \\ a(bc) &= (ab)c \end{aligned}}$$

4. What is the statement of the distributive property?

$$\boxed{a(b + c) = ab + ac}$$

5. We know that if  $a$  and  $b$  are real numbers such that  $ab = 0$ , then at least one of  $a$  and  $b$  has to be 0. By extension, given any real numbers  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ , if  $a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n = 0$ , then at least

one of them (perhaps several) must be 0. Now, the (rather ugly looking) polynomial

$$p(x) = \frac{\sqrt{6}}{10}\pi + \left(\frac{2\sqrt{6} - (-5\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3} + \sqrt{6})\pi}{10}\right)x + \left(\frac{-2(-5\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3} + \sqrt{6}) + (-5 - 5\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3})\pi}{10}\right)x^2 + \left(\frac{-10(1 + \sqrt{2}) + 2\sqrt{3} + 5\pi}{10}\right)x^3 + x^4 \quad (0.1)$$

can be factored as

$$p(x) = (x - 1)(x - \sqrt{2})\left(\frac{x + \sqrt{3}}{5}\right)\left(x + \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \quad (0.2)$$

A **root** of  $p(x)$  is a real number  $a$  such that  $p(a) = 0$ , that is, replacing  $x$  with  $a$  in the polynomial will make the expression equal to 0. What are the roots of  $p(x)$ ? (Hint: let  $p(x) = 0$  and apply the fact noted above to  $p(x)$  in its factored form (0.2).)

Suppose  $a$  is a real root of  $p(x)$ . Then,

$$p(a) = (a - 1)(a - \sqrt{2})\left(\frac{a + \sqrt{3}}{5}\right)\left(a + \frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0$$

This means that at least one of  $a - 1$ ,  $a - \sqrt{2}$ ,  $\frac{a + \sqrt{3}}{5}$  or  $a + \frac{\pi}{2}$  must equal 0. These are the only possibilities, and they completely account for the four roots of  $p(x)$ , if we can extract  $a$  from each. Solving each of these for  $a$  gives

$$a = 1 \qquad a = \sqrt{2} \qquad a = -\sqrt{3} \qquad a = -\frac{\pi}{2}$$

6. Circle the numbers which are rational:

2.12       2.121212...      2.121221222...        $\sqrt{2}$   
  $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$         $\frac{1}{3} + 2\pi$         $\frac{\sqrt{24}}{\sqrt{56}}$         $\frac{\pi^0}{237}$

7. Simplify the expression  $\frac{27 - \sqrt{72}}{6}$ .

$$\frac{9 - 2\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

8. Simplify the expression  $-\left(\frac{27p^6}{8q^3}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}}$ .

$$-\frac{9p^4}{4q^2}$$

9. Simplify the expression  $(7\sqrt{2})^2$ .

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10. Simplify the expression  $(3 + 2\sqrt{7})(3 - 2\sqrt{7})$ .

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