



# Simple use of parentheses

Work out these problems.

$$(3 + 2) \times (4 + 1) = 5 \times 5 = 25$$

$$(10 \times 5) \div (10 - 5) = 50 \div 5 = 10$$

Remember to work out the parentheses first.

Work out these problems.

$$(7 + 3) \times (8 - 4) = \quad (5 - 2) \times (8 - 1) = \quad$$

$$(9 + 5) \div (1 + 6) = \quad (14 - 6) \times (4 + 3) = \quad$$

$$(14 + 4) \div (12 - 6) = \quad (9 + 21) \div (8 - 5) = \quad$$

$$(11 - 5) \times (7 + 5) = \quad (8 + 20) \div (12 - 10) = \quad$$

$$(6 + 9) \div (8 - 3) = \quad (14 - 3) \times (6 + 1) = \quad$$

$$(10 + 10) \div (2 + 3) = \quad (9 + 3) \times (2 + 4) = \quad$$

Now try these.

$$(4 \times 3) \div (1 \times 2) = \quad (5 \times 4) \div (2 \times 2) = \quad$$

$$(8 \times 5) \div (4 \times 1) = \quad (6 \times 4) \div (3 \times 4) = \quad$$

$$(2 \times 4) \times (2 \times 3) = \quad (3 \times 5) \times (1 \times 2) = \quad$$

$$(8 \times 4) \div (2 \times 2) = \quad (6 \times 4) \div (4 \times 2) = \quad$$

If the answer is 30, which of these problems gives the correct answer?

a  $(3 \times 5) \times (2 \times 2)$                       d  $(20 \div 2) \times (12 \div 3)$

b  $(4 \times 5) \times (5 \times 2)$                       e  $(5 \times 12) \div (2 \times 5)$

c  $(12 \times 5) \div (8 \div 4)$                       f  $(9 \times 5) \div (10 \div 2)$                      

If the answer is 8, which of these problems gives the correct answer?

a  $(16 \div 2) \div (2 \times 1)$                       d  $(24 \div 6) \times (8 \div 4)$

b  $(9 \div 3) \times (3 \times 2)$                       e  $(8 \div 4) \times (8 \div 1)$

c  $(12 \times 4) \div (6 \times 2)$                       f  $(16 \div 4) \times (20 \div 4)$



## Simple use of parentheses

Work out these problems.

$$(3 + 2) \times (4 + 1) = 5 \times 5 = 25$$

$$(10 \times 5) \div (10 - 5) = 50 \div 5 = 10$$

Remember to work out the parentheses first.

Work out these problems.

$$(7 + 3) \times (8 - 4) = 40 \qquad (5 - 2) \times (8 - 1) = 21$$

$$(9 + 5) \div (1 + 6) = 2 \qquad (14 - 6) \times (4 + 3) = 56$$

$$(14 + 4) \div (12 - 6) = 3 \qquad (9 + 21) \div (8 - 5) = 10$$

$$(11 - 5) \times (7 + 5) = 72 \qquad (8 + 20) \div (12 - 10) = 14$$

$$(6 + 9) \div (8 - 3) = 3 \qquad (14 - 3) \times (6 + 1) = 77$$

$$(10 + 10) \div (2 + 3) = 4 \qquad (9 + 3) \times (2 + 4) = 72$$

Now try these.

$$(4 \times 3) \div (1 \times 2) = 6 \qquad (5 \times 4) \div (2 \times 2) = 5$$

$$(8 \times 5) \div (4 \times 1) = 10 \qquad (6 \times 4) \div (3 \times 4) = 2$$

$$(2 \times 4) \times (2 \times 3) = 48 \qquad (3 \times 5) \times (1 \times 2) = 30$$

$$(8 \times 4) \div (2 \times 2) = 8 \qquad (6 \times 4) \div (4 \times 2) = 3$$

If the answer is 30, which of these problems gives the correct answer?

a  $(3 \times 5) \times (2 \times 2)$

d  $(20 \div 2) \times (12 \div 3)$

b  $(4 \times 5) \times (5 \times 2)$

e  $(5 \times 12) \div (2 \times 5)$

c  $(12 \times 5) \div (8 \div 4)$

f  $(9 \times 5) \div (10 \div 2)$

c

If the answer is 8, which of these problems gives the correct answer?

a  $(16 \div 2) \div (2 \times 1)$

d  $(24 \div 6) \times (8 \div 4)$

b  $(9 \div 3) \times (3 \times 2)$

e  $(8 \div 4) \times (8 \div 1)$

c  $(12 \times 4) \div (6 \times 2)$

f  $(16 \div 4) \times (20 \div 4)$

d

Errors on this page will most likely be the result of choosing the wrong order of operation. Remind children that they must work out the brackets first, before they multiply or divide the results. It may be necessary to remind children to read carefully, as several operations take place in each equation.