

Advanced Math  
 Motivational Problems for Combinatorics

1. Let the sets A, B, C and D be defined by  $A = \{\text{all people who own a GM car}\}$ ,  $B = \{\text{all people who are GM employees}\}$ ,  $C = \{\text{the president of GM}\}$ ,  $D = \{\text{all people who are GM stockholders}\}$ .

Describe in your own words, the following sets:

- a.  $A \cap B$                       b.  $B \cap \bar{A}$                       c.  $(A \cup B) \cap D$                       d.  $C \cap A$

2. Two sets A and B are called **disjoint** if  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ . What does this mean in words and find an example of two sets that are disjoint.
3. A Universal Set U with non-disjoint subsets A and B has the following number of elements in each set:

Set	# of elements
U	$10 = n(U)$
A	$7 = n(A)$
B	6
$A \cap B$	4

Use a Venn Diagram to find the number of elements in  $A \cup B$ .

4. Use a Venn Diagram to prove the two following properties. They are called *deMorgan's Laws* of sets. State these laws in your own words as well.

I.  $\overline{(A \cup B)} = \bar{A} \cap \bar{B}$                       II.  $\overline{(A \cap B)} = \bar{A} \cup \bar{B}$

5. The Flabnomore Exerciser Company requires each of its employees to pass a yearly physical examination. The results of the most recent examination of the 50 employees were that 30 employees were overweight, 25 had high blood pressure, and 20 had high cholesterol count. Moreover, 15 of the overweight employees also had high blood pressure, and 10 of those with a high cholesterol count were also overweight. Of the 25 with high blood pressure, there were 12 who also had a high cholesterol count. Finally, there were 5 employees who had all three of these undesirable conditions. When the reports reached the desk of the president, Jox Chinup, he asked, "Don't we have any completely healthy employees around here?" What's the answer to the president's question?
6. If there are 2 sophomores, 5 juniors and 4 seniors in an Advanced Math Class, it's pretty obvious that the class size is 11 students. (Can you explain why in the vocabulary of sets?) What if you were given the following information: In an Advanced Math Class, there are 8 students who take Spanish and 9 students who

take French. Does that mean that the class size is 17? Give examples of why or why not.

7. A survey of 100 college students gave the following data:

8 owned a truck

20 owned a car

48 owned a bicycle

38 owned neither a car nor a truck nor a bicycle

no student who owned a car also owned a truck

How many students owned a bicycle and either a car or a truck?