

Introduction to numbers

- Several types of numbers student must know very well and can be able to identify each of them and provide an example.

➤ All the sets of numbers are called **Real numbers (R)**

i. Natural numbers (N)

- This type of numbers was invented to **count objects**, e.g. the number of dogs. These numbers **do not include zero (0)** because it is not used in the counting process but always start from one.

$$N = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots\}$$

ii. Whole numbers (W)

- This type of numbers **always start counting from zero**.

$$W = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots\}$$

iii. Integers (I)

- The set of **whole numbers (positive numbers)** and their **opposites (negative numbers)**.

$$I = \{\dots, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$$

- Numbers that are **less than zero (0)** are called **negative** numbers.

- **Positive** numbers usually have **no sign** with them, e.g. +3 is the same as 3.

- Integers are often represented and positions on a number line.

iv. Rational numbers (Q)

- Numbers that **can** be expressed as a **fraction**.

e.g. -2, -1, $\frac{3}{-5}$, 0, 0.2, $\frac{5}{7}$, $1\frac{1}{2}$, 3, 52

v. Irrational numbers (Q')

- Numbers that **cannot** be expressed as **fraction**.

e.g. $\pi = 3.14159264\dots$ (reading from the calculator) and has infinite ('ikai to e 'osi) number of decimal places.

Warm
up
Review:

Activity 1.1

1. Answer **True/False**.

a) π is a member of R

b) 3 is a member of R

c) 0 is a member of N

d) 1.5 is a member of W

e) π is a member of Q

2. Which of the two numbers:

a) 2, -1, is in **W**?

b) -2, $\sqrt{3}$, is in **Q**?

c) 0, π , is in **Q**?

d) 3, 1.7, is in **I**?