

Section 9-5 Permutations vs Combinations

A **permutation** is where the **order** or **arrangement** of elements is important.

A **combination** is where the order is NOT important.

Ex. ABC ACB BAC BCA CAB CBA 1 combination of the letters ABC
but 6 permutations

Permutation

$${}_n P_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$$

Combination

$${}_n C_r = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$$

1. a) Out of 10 colleges, in how many orders can you visit 6 of them?

$$10 \cdot 9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5$$

or ${}_n P_r$

- b) Out of 10 colleges, if the order doesn't matter, how many ways can you visit 6 of them?

$${}_{10} C_6$$

2. Before each Supreme Court session, each of the nine justices shakes hands with every other justice. How many handshakes take place?

$$8 + 7 + 6 + 5 + 4 + 3 + 2 + 1$$

$${}_9 C_2$$

3. A pizza restaurant offers 11 different toppings. Find the number of different kinds of pizza they could make using

a) 3 toppings

$${}_{11} C_3$$

b) 5 toppings

$${}_{11} C_5$$

c) 3 toppings or 5 toppings

$${}_{11} C_3 + {}_{11} C_5$$

d) all 11 toppings

$${}_{11} C_{11}$$

4. In a group of 15 people, 6 are left-handed and the rest are right-handed. If 7 people are selected at random from this group, find the probability that

a) three are left-handed and four are right-handed

$$\frac{{}^6C_3 \cdot {}^9C_4}{{}^{15}C_7}$$

b) all are right-handed

$$\frac{{}^9C_7 \cdot {}^6C_0}{{}^{15}C_7}$$

c) all are left-handed

$$\frac{{}^6C_7}{15C_7} \quad \text{-- not possible } 0\%$$

d) Pam and Joe, two of the left-handers, are selected

$$\frac{{}^1C_1 \cdot {}^1C_1 \cdot {}^{13}C_5}{{}^{15}C_7}$$

e) At least 5 people are left-handed

$$\frac{{}^6C_5 \cdot {}^9C_2 + {}^6C_6 \cdot {}^9C_1}{{}^{15}C_7}$$