## 1 Basic calculation skills

## In this chapter you will learn how to ...

- use non-calculator methods to calculate with positive and negative integers.
- perform operations in the correct order based on mathematical conventions.
- recognise inverse operations and use them to simplify and check calculations.

For more resources relating to this chapter, visit GCSE Mathematics Online.

## Using mathematics: real-life applications

Everyone uses numbers on a daily basis often without really thinking about them. Shopping, cooking, working out bills, paying for transport and measuring all rely on a good understanding of numbers and calculation skills.



You probably already know most of the concepts in this chapter. They have been included so that you can revise concepts if you need to and check that you know them well.
"Number puzzles and games are very popular and there are mobile apps and games available for all age groups. Our website offers free games where you have to identify the correct order of operations to use to solve different number puzzles."
(Website designer)

Before you start...

| KS3 | You should be able to <br> add, subtract, multiply <br> and divide positive and <br> negative numbers. |
| :--- | :--- |
| KS3 | You should know <br> the rules for working <br> when more than one <br> operation is involved in <br> a calculation (BIDMAS). |
| KS3 | You should understand <br> that addition and <br> subtraction, and <br> multiplication and <br> division are inverse <br> operations. |

1 Copy and complete each statement to make it true.
Use only $<,=$ or $>$.
a $2+3 \square 4-7$
c $-1-4 \square 20 \div-4$
b $-3+6 \square$ $\qquad$ 4-7
d $-6 \times 2 \square-7-(-5)$
(2) Spot the mistake in each calculation and correct the answers.
a $3+8+3 \times 4=56$
b $3+8 \times 3+4=37$
c $3 \times(8+3) \times 4=130$
(3) Identify the inverse operation by choosing the correct option.
a $14 \times 4=56$
A $56 \times 4=14$
B $14 \div 4=56$
C $56 \div 4=14$
b $200 \div 10=20$
A $200 \div 20=10$
B $200=10 \times 20$
C $10 \times 200=2000$
c $27+53=80$
A $80=4 \times 20 \quad$ B $80-27=53 \quad$ C $80+27=107$

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## GCSE Mathematics for OCR (Foundation)

## Assess your starting point using the Launchpad

## STEP 1

(1) Calculate without using a calculator and show your working.
a $647+786$
b 1406-289
c $45 \times 19$
d $414 \div 23$


(3) The perimeter of a square is equal to four times the length of a side. If the perimeter is 128 cm , what is the length of a side?
(4)

What should you add to 342 to get 550 ?
(5) If a number divided by 45 is 30 , what is the number?


## GO TO

## Section 3:

Inverse operations

## Section 1: Basic calculations

You will not always have a calculator so it is useful to know how to do calculations using mental and written strategies.
It is best to use a method that you are confident with and always show your working.
Remember that when a question asks you to find the:

## Tip

These are the kind of skills that are tested in the non-calculator examination papers.

WORK IT OUT 1.1
Look at these calculations carefully.
Discuss with a partner what methods these students have used to find the answer.
Which method would you use to do each of these calculations? Why?


## Problem-solving strategies

Many of the written calculations that you have to do will be to solve word problems.
Everyone has their own method of solving problems but there are some useful strategies and techniques that you can use for problem solving.
The problem-solving framework below outlines the steps that you can take to break down most problems to help you solve them more easily.
If you follow these steps each time you are faced with a problem you will become more skilled at problem solving and more able to self-check.
These are important skills both for your GCSE courses and for everyday life.

## Problem-solving framework

Sally buys, repairs and sells used furniture at a market.
Last week she bought a table for $£ 32$ and a bench for $£ 18$.
She spent $£ 12$ on wood, nails, varnish and glue to fix them up.
She then sold the two items on her stall for $£ 69$.
How much profit did she make on the two items?

| Steps for approaching a <br> problem-solving question | What you would do for this example |
| :--- | :--- |
| Step 1: Work out what you have to do. <br> Start by reading the question <br> carefully. | Find the profit on the two items. |
| Step 2: What information do you <br> need? <br> Have you got it all? | Cost of items $=£ 32+£ 18$ <br> Cost of repairs $=£ 12$ <br> Selling price $=£ 69$ |
| Step 3: Is there any information that <br> you don't need? | In this problem you don't need to know what she spent money on for <br> repairs. <br> You just need to know how much she spent. <br> Many problems contain extra information that you don't need to test <br> your understanding. |
| Step 4: Decide what maths you can <br> do. | Profit $=$ selling price - cost <br> You can add the costs and subtract them from the selling price. |
| Step 5: Set out your solution clearly. <br> Check your working and make sure <br> your answer is reasonable. | Cost $=£ 32+£ 18+£ 12=£ 62$ <br> Profit $=£ 69-£ 62=£ 7$ <br> Sally made $£ 7$ profit. |
| Step 6: Check that you have answered <br> the question. | Yes. You needed to find the profit and you have found it. |

## EXERCISE 1A

Solve these problems using written methods.
Set out your solutions clearly to show the methods you chose.

(1) After checking the prices at three different supermarkets, Nola found out that the cheapest pack of pens was $£ 3.90$ for three. She bought fifteen pens.
How much did she pay in total and what does this work out to per pen?
a How many packs of pens did she buy? Why do you need to know this?
b What is the total cost of the fifteen pens?
c What is the cost of each pen?
2 Sandra bought a pair of jeans for $£ 34$, a scarf for $£ 9.50$ and a top for $£ 20$. If she had saved $£ 100$ to buy these items, how much money would she have left?
(3) How many 16-page brochures can you make from 1030 pages?

4 Jason can type 48 words per minute.
a How many words can he type in an hour and a half?
b Approximately how long would it take him to type an article of 2000 words?
(5) At the start of a year the population of Greenside Village was 56309. During the year 617 people died, 1835 babies were born, 4087 people left the village and 3099 people moved into the village.
What was the population at the end of the year?
6 The Amazon River is 6448 km long, the Nile River is 6670 km and the Severn is 354 km long.
a How much longer is the Nile than the Amazon?
b How much shorter is the Severn than the Amazon?
(7) What is the combined sum of 132 plus 99 and the product of 36 and 127 ?

8 What is the result when the difference between 8765 and 3087 is added to the result of 1206 divided by 18 ?

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## Key vocabulary

integers: whole numbers belonging to the set
$\{\ldots-3,-2,-1,0,1,2,3, \ldots\}$; they are sometimes called directed numbers because they have a negative or positive sign.

## Tip

You will be expected to work with negative and positive values in algebra, so it is important to make sure you can do this early on in your GCSE course.

## Working with negative and positive integers

When doing calculations involving positive and negative integers, you need to remember to apply the following rules:

- Adding a negative number is the same as subtracting the number: $4+-3=1$.
- Subtracting a negative number is the same as adding a positive number: $5--3=8$.
- Multiplying or dividing the same signs gives a positive answer: $-4 \times-2=8$ and $\frac{-4}{-2}=2$.
- Multiplying or dividing different signs gives a negative answer: $4 \times-2=-8$ and $\frac{-4}{2}=-2$.


## EXERCISE 1B

(1) Calculate.
a $12-5+8$
b $-3-4-8$
c 3+5-6
d $-2-8+5$
e 14-3-9
f $9-3-4$
g $-34+18-12$
j $-3-(-10)$
h $25-19-42$
i $-9-(-7)$
-
k $-4-(-12)$
I 8-(-9)
m 9 - ( -8 )
n - 14 - (-14)

- $-3-8-(-9)$
(2) Calculate.
a $-2 \times-4 \times-4$
b $-4 \times 3 \times-6$
c ${ }^{-} 3 \times-4 \times 3$
d $-4 \times-8 \times 3$
e $3 \times 6 \times-4$
f $12 \times 2 \times-3$
g $1 \times-1 \times 10$
h $-3 \times-8 \times 9$
i $24 \div 3$
j $-24 \div 3$
k $-28 \div 2$
I $-48 \div-6$
m-300 $\div-10$
n $400 \div-40$
- $42 \div-7$
p $-22 \div-22$
q $-33 \div 11$
r $-27 \div-3$
s $45 \div-9$
t $-64 \div-8$
u $-81 \div 3$
(3) Calculate.
a $\frac{-40}{5}$
b $\frac{-28}{-4}$
c $\frac{30}{-5}$
d $\frac{12}{-2}$
e $\frac{65}{-5}$
f $\frac{-48}{-6}$
g $\frac{-330}{-10}$
h $\frac{-400}{40}$
i $\frac{-63}{7}$
j $\frac{-60}{-20}$
k $\frac{60}{-6}$
I $\frac{-36}{6}$
(4) Apply the operations in the first row to the given number to complete each table.

| a |  | -10 | $\times-2$ | + 4 | $\div-2$ | -8 | + 1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | -5 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| b |  | $\times-4$ | $\div-5$ | + 8 | - 3 | $\times 2$ | -9 |
|  | 10 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| c |  | - 10 | $\times-2$ | + 4 | $\div-2$ | -8 | + 1 |
|  | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

5 Here are some bank transactions.
Calculate the new balance in each case.
a Balance of $£ 230$, withdraw $£ 100$.
b Balance of $£ 250.50$, withdraw $£ 300$.
c Balance of - $£ 450$, deposit $£ 900$ then withdraw $£ 300$.
d Balance of $-£ 100$, deposit $£ 2000$ then withdraw $£ 550$.
6 The opening of an oil well 5000 feet below sea level, caused a massive oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010.
The oil well itself extended to a depth of 13000 feet.
Express the answers to these questions as directed numbers.
a How deep was the deepest part of the oil well below the sea bed?
b How far did oil travel from the bottom of the well to reach the surface of the water?
c The oil company involved estimated that they were losing money at the rate of $\$ 15000000$ per day. Use an integer to express the money lost after:
i one week.
ii thirteen weeks.
(7) Here is a set of integers.
$\{-8,-6,-3,1,3,7\}$
a Find two numbers with a difference of 9 .
b Find three numbers with a sum of 1 .
c Find two numbers whose product is -3 .
d Find two numbers which, when divided, will give an answer of ${ }^{-6}$.
8 One more than -6 is added to the product of 7 and six less than 3.
What is the result?
9 The temperature in Inverness is $4^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ at 7 pm at night. By 1 am the same night, it has dropped by 12 degrees.
a What is the temperature at 1 am ?
b What is the average hourly change in the temperature?
c By noon the next day, the temperature is $7^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. How many degrees warmer is this than it was at 1 am ?

## Section 2: Order of operations

Jose posted this calculation on his wall on social media.

|  | JOSE: |
| :--- | :--- |
|  | $24+6 \div 2-1 \times 4=?$ |
|  | COMMENT |
|  | JOANNA: 56 |
|  |  |
|  | PETER: 11 |
|  | LUCIA: 23 |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

Within minutes, his friends had posted four different answers.
Which one (if any) do you think is correct? Why?
There is a set of rules that tell you the order in which you need to work when there is more than one operation.
The order of operations is:
1 Do any operations in brackets first.
2 If there are any indices (powers or exponents) in the calculation, do them next.
3 Do division and multiplication next, working from left to right.
4 Do addition and subtraction last, working from left to right.

## Brackets and symbols

Brackets are used to group operations. For example:
$(3+7) \times(30 \div 2)$
When there is more than one set of brackets, it is best to work from the innermost set to the outermost set.

## WORKED EXAMPLE 1

```
Solve 2((4+2)\times2-3(1-3)-10)
2((4+2)\times2-3(1-3)-10)
    2((4+2)\times2-3(1-3)-10)
=2(6\times2-3(-2)-10)
=2(6\times2-3\times-2-10)
    2(6\times2-3\times-2-10)
=2(12--6-10)
= 2(8)
=2\times8
= 16
```

Highlight the different pairs of brackets to help if you need to.
The red brackets are the innermost, so do the calculations inside these ones first. There are two lots of red brackets, so work from left to right. Note that you can leave -2 inside brackets if you prefer because $3(-2)$ is the same as $3 \times-2$.

Black brackets are next. Do the multiplications first from left to right, then the subtractions from left to right.

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Often a different style of bracket will be used to make it easier to identify each pair. For example, the following different types of brackets have been used below: ( ), [ ], \{ \}.
$\{2-[4(2-7)-4(3+8)]-2\} \times 8$
Other symbols can also be used to group operations. For example:
Fraction bars: $\frac{5-12}{3-8}$
Roots: $\sqrt{16+9}$
These symbols are treated like brackets when you do a calculation.

## WORK IT OUT 1.2

Which of the solutions is correct in each case?
Find the mistakes in the incorrect option.

|  | Option A | Option B |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $\begin{aligned} & 7 \times 3+4 \\ & =21+4 \\ & =25 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 7 \times 3+4 \\ & =7 \times 7 \\ & =49 \end{aligned}$ |
| 2 | $\begin{aligned} & (10-4) \times(4+9)^{2} \\ & =6 \times 16+81 \\ & =96+81 \\ & =177 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & (10-4) \times(4+9)^{2} \\ & =6 \times(13)^{2} \\ & =6 \times 169 \\ & =1014 \end{aligned}$ |
| 3 | $\begin{aligned} & 45-[20 \times(4-3)] \\ & =45-[20 \times 1] \\ & =45-21 \\ & =24 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 45-[20 \times(4-3)] \\ & =45-20 \times 1 \\ & =45-20 \\ & =25 \end{aligned}$ |
| 4 | $\begin{aligned} & 30-4 \div 2+2 \\ & =26 \div 2+2 \\ & =13+2 \\ & =15 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 30-4 \div 2+2 \\ & =30-2+2 \\ & =30 \end{aligned}$ |
| 5 | $\begin{aligned} & \frac{18-4}{4-2} \\ & =\frac{18}{2} \\ & =9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \frac{18-4}{4-2} \\ & =\frac{14}{2} \\ & =7 \end{aligned}$ |
| 6 | $\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{36 \div 4}+40 \div 4+1 \\ & =\sqrt{9}+10+1 \\ & =3+11 \\ & =14 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{36 \div 4}+40 \div 4+1 \\ & =\sqrt{9}+40 \div 5 \\ & =3+8 \\ & =11 \end{aligned}$ |

## EXERCISE 1C

(1) Calculate.

Show the steps in your working.
a $5 \times 10+3$
b $5 \times(10+3)$
c $2+10 \times 3$
d $(2+10) \times 3$
e $23+7 \times 2$
f $6 \times 2 \div(3+3)$
g $10-4 \times 5$
h $12+6 \div 2-4$
i $3+4 \times 5-10$
j $18 \div 3 \times 5-3+2$
k $5-3 \times 8-6 \div 2$
l $7+8 \div 4-1$
m $\frac{15-5}{2 \times 5}$
n $(17+1) \div 9+2$

- $\frac{16-4}{4-1}$
p $17+3 \times 21$
q $48-(2+3) \times 2$
r $12 \times 4-4 \times 8$
s $15+30 \div 3+6$
t $20-6 \div 3+3$
u $10-4 \times 2 \div 2$

2 Check whether these answers are correct.
If the answer is wrong, work out the correct answer.
a $12 \times 4+76=124$
b $8+75 \times 8=698$
c $12 \times 18-4 \times 23=124$
d $(16 \div 4) \times(7+3 \times 4)=76$
e $(82-36) \times(2+6)=16$
f $(3 \times 7-4)-(4+6 \div 2)=12$
(3) Use the numbers listed to make each number sentence true.
a
 $\square-\square \div$ $\div \square=\square$
$0,2,5,10$
b
 $\square \div \square=$ $\square=\square$
9, 11, 13, 18
c
 ( $\square$ $\square)-\square$ $=\square$
$1,3,8,14,16$
d
 $\square$ $\square)-(\square$ $\square-\square)=\square$
$4,5,6,9,12$

## Section 3: Inverse operations



Operations are inverses of each other if one undoes (cancels out) the effect of the other.

- Adding is the inverse of subtracting, for example +5 is undone by -5 .
- Multiplying is the inverse of dividing, for example $\times 2$ is undone by $\div 2$.
- Taking a square root is the inverse of squaring a number, for example $4^{2}$ is undone by $\sqrt{16}$.
- Taking the cube root is the inverse of cubing a number, for example $2^{3}$ is undone by $\sqrt[3]{2}$.


## When you add a number to its inverse the answer is always 0 .

For example, $1+{ }^{-} 1=0,-1$ is known as the additive inverse of 1 .

## When you multiply a number by its inverse, the answer is always 1.

For example, $2 \times \frac{1}{2}=1$
$\frac{1}{2}$ is known as the multiplicative inverse of 2 .
The multiplicative inverse of a number is also called its reciprocal.
For example, $\frac{1}{3}$ is the reciprocal of 3 .
Inverse operations are useful for checking the results of your calculations because carrying out the inverse operation gets you back to the number you started with.

