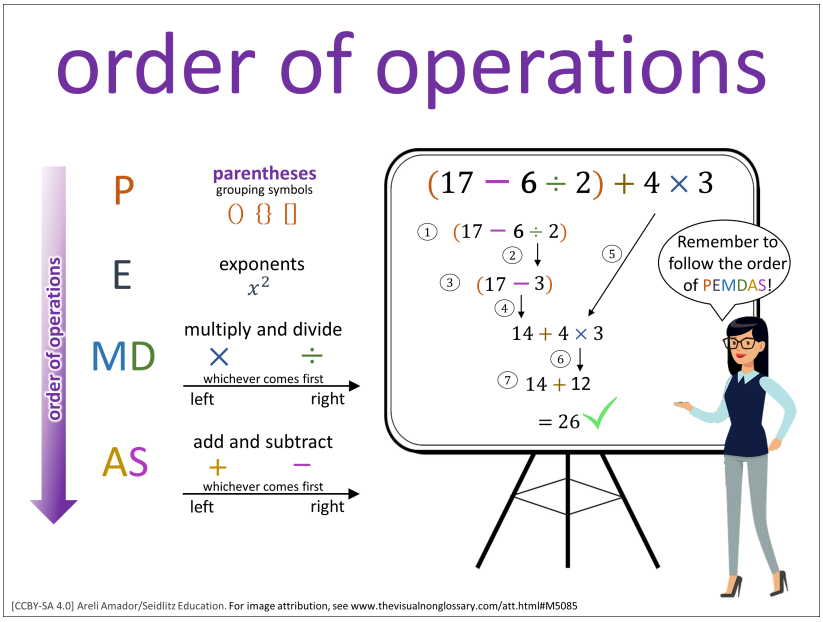
The Visual Non-Glossary™

Solving with Order

Let's read to learn how the order of operations helps us solve math problems step by step.

Pay Attention To:

- What the order of operations is
- What steps are followed in the order of operations
- How parentheses affect the steps
- A math example that uses the order of operations



In math, we follow a rule called the **order of operations**. This rule tells us which steps to do first, next, and last.

Look at this example: 5 + 3 × 2. We solve 3 × 2 first. That gives us 6. Then we do 5 + 6. The answer is 11. We follow the **order of operations** to do this.

Sometimes, we use **parentheses** to show where to start. In (5 + 3) × 2, we add first because of the **parentheses**. Then we multiply. The **parentheses** tell us what part comes first.

Following the **order of operations** helps us work through math problems in the right way.

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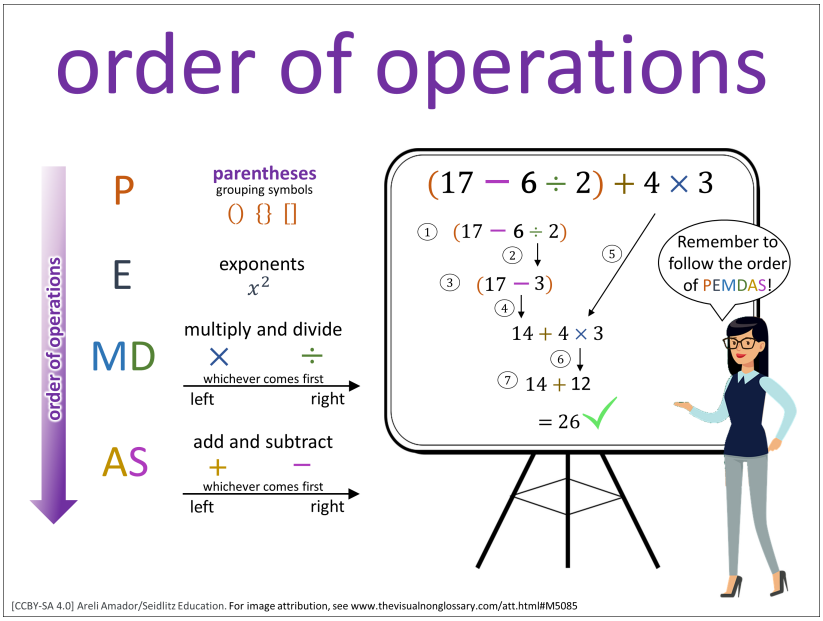

When solving a math expression with more than one operation, it's important to follow a set of rules called the **order of operations**. These rules help us decide which step to do first, next, and last.

For example, in the expression 5 + 3 × 2, we begin with multiplication: 3 × 2 equals 6. Then we add 5 + 6 to get 11. This sequence follows the correct **order of operations**.

Sometimes, expressions include **parentheses** to show which part to solve first. In (5 + 3) × 2, the **parentheses** tell us to add before multiplying. Expressions can look similar but be solved differently depending on the placement of **parentheses**.

Using the **order of operations** helps people solve math expressions in a clear and consistent way.

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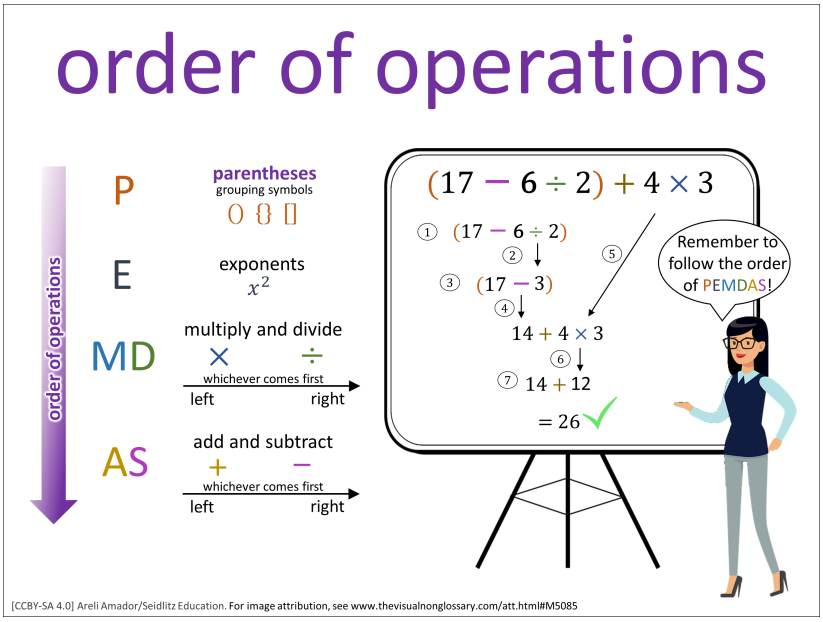

Mathematical expressions often contain several operations. To solve them accurately, we use the **order of operations**—a set of steps that guide the correct order for solving.

Consider this expression: 5 + 3 × 2. The rule tells us to multiply first, so 3 × 2 equals 6. Then we add 5 + 6 to get 11. This approach ensures consistency.

Now imagine a similar expression: (5 + 3) × 2. Here, the **parentheses** signal a different starting point. We add 5 + 3 first, then multiply the result by 2. The use of **parentheses** can shift how we approach and solve an expression.

The **order of operations** helps keep mathematical work organized and predictable.

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