

Order of operations with brackets

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

Maths has an agreed order: do **brackets first**, then **multiply and divide**, then **add and subtract** (working left to right).

→ $3 + 4 \times 2 = 3 + 8 = 11$ (not 14).

→ $(3 + 4) \times 2 = 14$ — brackets change everything.

MODEL THIS ON THE BOARD

WORK OUT $5 + 2 \times (8 - 3)$

- ① **Brackets first:** $8 - 3 = 5$.
- ② Then **multiply:** $2 \times 5 = 10$.
- ③ Then **add:** $5 + 10 = 15$.

DISCUSSION STARTER

REFLECT Why is it useful that everyone agrees on the same order of operations?

ANSWER KEY

Warm-up: a) 333 b) 471 c) 64 d) 972

Q1: 143

Q2: 34

Spot: Multiplication comes before addition: $2 \times 3 = 6$, then $5 + 6 = 11$.

EXTENSION SHEET · STRETCH ANSWERS

S1: 48

S2: 69

S3: 116