# CHAPTER 0 REVIEW OF ALGEBRA 01. Sets of Real Numbers

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A set is determined by its elements. Neither rearrangements neither nor repetitions in a listing affects the set. A setA is said to be a subset of setB if and only if every element of A is also an element of B.

For example, if  $A = \{6, 8, 10\}$  and  $B = \{6, 8, 10, 12\}$ , then A is a subset of B. However, B is not a subset of A. There is exactly one set which contains no elements. It is called the empty set and is denoted by  $\emptyset$ .

#### 1 Real Numbers

Real numbers are a set of numbers which encompass all the possible numbers that can be represented on a continuous number line. Real numbers may contain various type of numbers. Such as:

#### 1. Rational numbers

These are the numbers that can be expressed as ratio of two numbers (where the denominator is not 0). They can have terminating decimal representations, for instances are

- $\bullet$   $\frac{3}{4} = 0.75,$
- $\frac{1}{5} = 0.4$ ,
- or non-terminating and repeating decimal numbers. Such as

  - $\begin{array}{l} -\frac{1}{3}=0.33333\ldots,\\ -\frac{4}{11}=0.363636\ldots,\\ -\text{ and }\frac{2}{15}=0.13333\ldots \end{array}$

#### 2. Irrational Numbers

These are the numbers that cannot be expressed as a ratio of two integers. The decimal expansion are non-terminating and non-repeating. Irrational numbers cannot be written as an integer divided by integer. Examples:

•  $\pi$  (pi)

- e (Euler)
- $\sqrt{2}$
- $\sqrt{3}$
- $\sqrt{5}$
- $\varphi$  (Golden Ratio)

# 3. Integers:

This is a subset of rational numbers that include zero, positive whole numbers (natural numbers), and their negatives.

Examples: ..., -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, ...

# 4. Whole Numbers:

These include all natural numbers along with zero.

### 5. Natural Numbers:

Also known as counting numbers. These starts from 1 and go on indefinitely  $(1,\,2,\,3,\,\dots)$ 

