Precalc notes

1. (a) x
   (b) -4
   (c) $\frac{3}{2}$
   (d) $\sqrt{5}$

2. (a) $ab = ba$; associative property
   (b) $a + (b + c) = (a + b) + c$; commutative property
   (c) $a(b + c) = ab + ac$; Distributive property

3. (a) $A = \{x \mid x \in \mathbb{R} \mid 2 < x < 7\}$
   (b) $(2, 7)$

4. (a) The symbol x stands for the absolute value of the number x.
   If x is not 0, then she sign of $|x|$ is always positive

5. The distance between a and b on the real line is $d(a, b) = |a - b|$.
   So the distance between -5 and 2 is ....