



Bourbaki

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1 Objects

1.1 Why

We want to talk about things.

1.2 Definition

We use the word **object** with its usual sense in the English language. An object may be tangible, in that we can hold or touch it, or an object may be abstract, in that we can do neither.

1.2.1 Notation

To aid in discussing and denoting objects, let us tend to give them short names. A single Latin letter regularly suffices: for example, a , b or c . To aid our memory, we tend to choose the letter mnemonically.

We denote that the object a and the object b are the same object by $a = b$, read aloud as “a is b.” We denote that the object a and b are different by $a \neq b$, read aloud as “a is not b.”