

# Survival Guidelines

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## 1. How to get the most from the materials?

- Core materials: Montague's (1970) PTQ and Heim and Kratzer (1998)
- Supplementary readings:
  - Chris Baker's **Lambda Tutorial**: this is a great tutorial on lambda calculus. Browse to "Examples and practice," which has several exercises on lambda calculus. Guess the result of each expression before clicking "Reduce."  
<https://cb125.github.io/lambda.html#binding>

### Concepts and notation from set theory

$x \in A$	$x$ is an <i>element</i> of the set $A = x$ is a <i>member</i> of $A$
$x \notin A$	$x$ is not an element of $A$
$\emptyset$	the <i>empty set</i> = the set that has no members
$A \subseteq B$	the set $A$ is a <i>subset</i> of the set $B = B$ is a <i>superset</i> of $A =$ every element of $A$ is an element of $B$
$A \not\subseteq B$	$A$ is not a subset of $B$
$\wp(A)$	the <i>powerset</i> of $A =$ the set of all subsets of $A$ . Example: $\wp(\{a, b\}) = \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}\}$
$A \cap B$	the <i>intersection</i> of $A$ and $B =$ the set of elements that are in both $A$ and $B$
$A \cup B$	the <i>union</i> of $A$ and $B =$ the set of elements that are in $A$ or $B$ (or both)
$A - B$	the <i>difference</i> between $A$ and $B =$ the set of elements in $A$ that are not in $B$
$\overline{A}$	the <i>complement</i> of $A$ (in $E$ ) $= E - A$ , where $E$ is a given superset of $A$
$ A $	the <i>cardinality</i> of $A =$ for finite sets: the number of elements in $A$
$\{x \in A : S\}$	the set of elements in $A$ s.t. the statement $S$ holds Example: $\{x \in \{a, b\} : x \in \{b, c\}\} = \{a, b\} \cap \{b, c\} = \{b\}$
$\{A \subseteq B : S\}$	the set of subsets of $B$ s.t. the statement $S$ holds. Example: $\{A \subseteq \{a, b\} :  A =1\} = \{\{a\}, \{b\}\}$
$\langle x, y \rangle$	an ordered pair of items $x$ and $y$
$A \times B$	the <i>cartesian product</i> of $A$ and $B =$ the set of ordered pairs $\langle x, y \rangle$ s.t. $x \in A$ and $y \in B$ Example: $\{a, b\} \times \{1, 2\} = \{\langle a, 1 \rangle, \langle a, 2 \rangle, \langle b, 1 \rangle, \langle b, 2 \rangle\}$
$A$ <i>binary relation</i> between $A$ and $B$ is a subset of the cartesian product $A \times B$ .	
$A$ <i>function</i> $f$ from $A$ to $B$ is a binary relation between $A$ and $B$ that satisfies: for every $x \in A$ , there is a unique $y \in B$ s.t. $\langle x, y \rangle \in f$ . If $f$ is a function where $\langle x, y \rangle \in f$ , we say that $f$ <i>maps</i> $x$ to $y$ , and write $f : x \mapsto y$ or $f(x) = y$ .	
Example: the binary relation $f = \{\langle a, 1 \rangle, \langle b, 2 \rangle\}$ is a function from $\{a, b\}$ to $\{1, 2\}$ , which is equivalently specified $[a \mapsto 1, b \mapsto 2]$ or by indicating that $f(a) = 1$ and $f(b) = 2$ .	

1. *Idempotent Laws*
  - (a)  $X \cup X = X$
  - (b)  $X \cap X = X$
2. *Commutative Laws*
  - (a)  $X \cup Y = Y \cup X$
  - (b)  $X \cap Y = Y \cap X$
3. *Associative Laws*
  - (a)  $(X \cup Y) \cup Z = X \cup (Y \cup Z)$
  - (b)  $(X \cap Y) \cap Z = X \cap (Y \cap Z)$
4. *Distributive Laws*
  - (a)  $X \cup (Y \cap Z) = (X \cup Y) \cap (X \cup Z)$
  - (b)  $X \cap (Y \cup Z) = (X \cap Y) \cup (X \cap Z)$
5. *Identity Laws*
  - (a)  $X \cup \emptyset = X$
  - (c)  $X \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$
  - (b)  $X \cup U = U$
  - (d)  $X \cap U = X$
6. *Complement Laws*
  - (a)  $X \cup X' = U$
  - (c)  $X \cap X' = \emptyset$
  - (b)  $(X')' = X$
  - (d)  $X - Y = X \cap Y'$
7. *DeMorgan's Law*
  - (a)  $(X \cup Y)' = X' \cap Y'$
  - (b)  $(X \cap Y)' = X' \cup Y'$
8. *Consistency Principle*
  - (a)  $X \subseteq Y$  iff  $X \cup Y = Y$
  - (b)  $X \subseteq Y$  iff  $X \cap Y = X$

Figure 1-7: Some fundamental set-theoretic equalities.

- (14)
- a.  $\neg(\varphi \wedge \psi) \equiv \neg\varphi \vee \neg\psi$
  - b.  $\neg(\varphi \vee \psi) \equiv \neg\varphi \wedge \neg\psi$  (de Morgan laws)
  - c.  $\varphi \wedge (\psi \wedge \chi) \equiv (\varphi \wedge \psi) \wedge \chi$
  - d.  $\varphi \vee (\psi \vee \chi) \equiv (\varphi \vee \psi) \vee \chi$  (associativity)
  - e.  $\neg\neg\varphi \equiv \varphi$  (double negation)
  - f.  $\varphi \wedge \psi \equiv \psi \wedge \varphi$
  - g.  $\varphi \vee \psi \equiv \psi \vee \varphi$  (commutativity)
  - h.  $\varphi \wedge (\psi \vee \chi) \equiv (\varphi \wedge \psi) \vee (\varphi \wedge \chi)$
  - i.  $\varphi \vee (\psi \wedge \chi) \equiv (\varphi \vee \psi) \wedge (\varphi \vee \chi)$  (distributive laws)
  - j.  $\varphi \equiv \varphi \wedge \varphi \equiv \varphi \vee \varphi$  (idempotency)
  - k.  $\varphi \rightarrow \psi \equiv \neg\varphi \vee \psi$
  - l.  $\varphi \rightarrow \psi \equiv \neg(\varphi \wedge \neg\psi)$
  - m.  $\varphi \leftrightarrow \psi \equiv (\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \wedge (\psi \rightarrow \varphi)$
  - n.  $\varphi \rightarrow \psi \equiv \neg\psi \rightarrow \neg\varphi$
  - o.  $\models \varphi \vee \neg\varphi$  (Law of Excluded Middle)
  - p.  $\models \neg(\varphi \wedge \neg\varphi)$  (Law of Contradiction)
  - q.  $\models \varphi \rightarrow \varphi$
  - r.  $\models \varphi \rightarrow (\psi \rightarrow \varphi)$
  - s.  $\models (\varphi \rightarrow (\psi \rightarrow \chi)) \rightarrow ((\varphi \rightarrow \psi) \rightarrow (\varphi \rightarrow \chi))$

Just as for functions we can define:

$$\text{dom}(R) = \{a: \exists b \, aRb\} \text{ and } \text{range}(R) = \{b: \exists a \, aRb\}$$

A relation  $R$  is *functional* if  $aRb$  and  $aRb'$  implies  $b = b'$ . So a functional relation  $R$  is a function from  $\text{dom}(R)$  to some set  $B$  such that  $\text{range}(R) \subseteq B$ . We also say that (an arbitrary relation)  $R$  is *injective* if  $aRb$  and  $a'Rb$  implies  $a = a'$ . Examples of 'laws' for binary relations are given in the exercises.

Here are some well-known properties of relations:

- (26)
- a.  $R$  is *reflexive* if for all  $a \in M$ ,  $aRa$ .
  - b.  $R$  is *irreflexive* if for all  $a \in M$ ,  $\neg aRa$ .
  - c.  $R$  is *symmetric* if for all  $a, b \in M$ ,  $aRb \Rightarrow bRa$ .
  - d.  $R$  is *asymmetric* if for all  $a, b \in M$ ,  $aRb \Rightarrow \neg bRa$ .
  - e.  $R$  is *antisymmetric* if for all  $a, b \in M$ ,  $aRb \ \& \ bRa \Rightarrow a = b$ .
  - f.  $R$  is *transitive* if for all  $a, b, c \in M$ ,  $aRb \ \& \ bRc \Rightarrow aRc$ .
  - g.  $R$  is *intransitive* if for all  $a, b, c \in M$ ,  $aRb \ \& \ bRc \Rightarrow \neg aRc$ .

Notes:

- The  $U$  symbol is the set-theoretic universe  $U$ ;  $X'$  means the complement of  $X$  ( $X' = \{x: x \notin X\}$ )
- For a more detailed list of rules of inference, check the following link  
<https://cse.iitk.ac.in/users/cs365/2012/rulesLogic.html>

- For those who need to revise basic notions in semantics, check Albert Gatt's lecture notes here <http://staff.um.edu.mt/albert.gatt/teaching/semantics.html>

## 2. On representing semantics notations:

- Typographical conventions in semantics:
  - Either use '1 iff ' in e.g. '[[Floyd exploded.]] = 1 iff **exploded(Floyd)**' or write e.g.  $f(x)$  in place of  $f(x) = 1$  and try to be consistent.
  - Constants should be in **boldface**, variables in *italics*.
  - The types of variables for functions should be indicated as subscripts next to the lambdas that introduce them.
  - Outside of examples, the object language should be in *italics*, emphasis is indicated by **boldface**.
  - The conventions about **variable names** are:
    - $P, Q$  for **properties of individuals**  $\langle e, t \rangle$
    - $R$  for **relations**  $\langle e, et \rangle$
    - $G$  for **gradable degree predicates**, any type with both a  $\langle d \rangle$  and an  $\langle e \rangle$  in it:  $\langle e, d \rangle, \langle e, dt \rangle, \langle d, et \rangle$
    - $D$  for **properties of degrees**, type  $\langle d, t \rangle$
    - $p, q$  for **propositions**, type  $\langle s, t \rangle$
    - $f, g, \dots$  for other functional types
    - $e, e', \dots$  for **events**, type  $\langle v \rangle$
    - $d, d', \dots$  for **degrees**, type  $\langle d \rangle$
    - $w, w', \dots$  for **possible worlds**, type  $\langle s \rangle$
- LaTeX typing tips:
  - General info: <https://research.pomona.edu/mjkd/latex/>
  - Essential macros for semantics:
    - Interpretation notation: `\newcommand{\interp}[2][\{ | ( |left|l|bracket|,|text{\#2}|,|right|rrbracket^{\#1}| ) }`
    - lambda notation: `\newcommand{\lam}[2][\{\$|lambda {\#2} _{\#1}\$.}`

## 3. Miscellaneous stuff:

- Useful resources:
  - <https://guides.nyu.edu/linguistics/semantics>
  - <https://semanticsarchive.net/>
  - <http://ling.auf.net/lingbuzz>
  - <http://journals.linguisticsociety.org/proceedings/index.php/SALT/>

(The biggest conference on semantics)

- Guidelines on reading/writing a philosophy paper:
  - <http://www.jimpryor.net/teaching/guidelines/reading.html>
  - <http://www.jimpryor.net/teaching/guidelines/writing.html>