COMPUTING AND DIGITAL LITERACY

Arithmetic Operators

Difficulty level: Easy

Computing and Digital Literacy

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Overview of the concept

This is how a computer or calculator turns numbers you store into new answers. Adding up a shopping list or working out change in a till app both come down to plus, minus, times, and divide. Operators are the basic verbs of arithmetic, and every calculation in every app is built from them.



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Worked examples

EXAMPLE 1

Q What do you get from 7 + 3, 7 – 3, 7 × 3, 7 ÷ 2, and 7 % 3?

SOLUTION

7 + 3 = 10 (add)

7 - 3 = 4 (subtract)

7 * 3 = 21 (multiply)

$\frac{7}{2}$ = 3.5 (divide)

7 % 3 = 1 (remainder)

For remainder, divide and keep what is left: $\frac{7}{3}$ = 2 remainder 1, so 7 % 3 = 1

EXAMPLE 2

Q Trace a small calculation

SOLUTION

x = 5

y = 2

result = x * y + 1 -> 5 * 2 + 1 = 11

Multiply first, following order of operations: 5 * 2 = 10

Add 1 last: 10 + 1 = 11, so result holds 11.

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Practice questions

1 What does 8 + 5 give?

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2 What does 8 - 5 give?

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3 What does 8 * 5 give?

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4 What does 10 / 4 give?

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5 What does 10 % 3 give?

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6 In run A, x is 4 and y is 3. result = x + y * 2. What value does result hold?

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7 In run B, x is 20 and y is 4. result = x / y * 2. What value does result hold?

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8 In run C, x is 6 and y is 2. result = (x + y) * 3. What value does result hold?

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9 What does (10 + 2) % 4 give?

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10 What is (3 + 4) * 2?

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ANSWER KEY

1. 13

2. 3

3. 40

4. 2.5

5. 1

6. 10

7. 10

8. 24

9. 0

10. 14

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