The number of ways is $5 \times 4 \times 3 = 60$.

Continuing the same way, we find that

The number of 4 flag signals $= 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 = 120$

and the number of 5 flag signals $= 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 120$

Therefore, the required no of signals $= 20 + 60 + 120 + 120 = 320$.

EXERCISE 7.1

1. How many 3-digit numbers can be formed from the digits 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 assuming that

(i) repetition of the digits is allowed?

(ii) repetition of the digits is not allowed?

2. How many 3-digit even numbers can be formed from the digits 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 if the digits can be repeated?

3. How many 4-letter code can be formed using the first 10 letters of the English alphabet, if no letter can be repeated?

4. How many 5-digit telephone numbers can be constructed using the digits 0 to 9 if each number starts with 67 and no digit appears more than once?

5. A coin is tossed 3 times and the outcomes are recorded. How many possible outcomes are there?

6. Given 5 flags of different colours, how many different signals can be generated if each signal requires the use of 2 flags, one below the other?

7.3 Permutations

In Example 1 of the previous Section, we are actually counting the different possible arrangements of the letters such as ROSE, REOS, ..., etc. Here, in this list, each arrangement is different from other. In other words, the order of writing the letters is important. Each arrangement is called a *permutation of* 4 *different letters taken all at a time*. Now, if we have to determine the number of 3-letter words, with or without meaning, which can be formed out of the letters of the word NUMBER, where the repetition of the letters is not allowed, we need to count the arrangements NUM, NMU, MUN, NUB, ..., etc. Here, we are counting the permutations of 6 different letters taken 3 at a time. The required number of words $= 6 \times 5 \times 4 = 120$ (by using multiplication principle).

If the repetition of the letters was allowed, the required number of words would be $6 \times 6 \times 6 = 216$.

Definition 1 A permutation is an arrangement in a definite order of a number of objects taken some or all at a time.

In the following sub-section, we shall obtain the formula needed to answer these questions immediately.

7.3.1 *Permutations when all the objects are distinct*

Theorem 1 The number of permutations of n different objects taken r at a time, where $0 < r \leq n$ and the objects do not repeat is $n(n-1)(n-2)\ldots(n-r+1)$, which is denoted by ${}^nP_r$.

Proof There will be as many permutations as there are ways of filling in r vacant

places □ □ □ . . . □ by

← r vacant places →

the n objects. The first place can be filled in n ways; following which, the second place can be filled in $(n-1)$ ways, following which the third place can be filled in $(n-2)$ ways,..., the rth place can be filled in $(n-(r-1))$ ways. Therefore, the number of ways of filling in r vacant places in succession is $n(n-1)(n-2)\ldots(n-(r-1))$ or $n(n-1)(n-2)\ldots(n-r+1)$

This expression for ${}^nP_r$ is cumbersome and we need a notation which will help to reduce the size of this expression. The symbol $n!$ (read as factorial n or n factorial) comes to our rescue. In the following text we will learn what actually $n!$ means.

7.3.2 ***Factorial notation*** The notation $n!$ represents the product of first n natural numbers, i.e., the product $1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \ldots \times (n-1) \times n$ is denoted as $n!$. We read this symbol as 'n factorial'. Thus, $1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 \ldots \times (n-1) \times n = n!$

$$1 = 1!$$
$$1 \times 2 = 2!$$
$$1 \times 2 \times 3 = 3!$$
$$1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 = 4! \text{ and so on.}$$

We define $0! = 1$

We can write $5! = 5 \times 4! = 5 \times 4 \times 3! = 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2!$
$= 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1!$

Clearly, for a natural number n

$$n! = n(n-1)!$$
$$= n(n-1)(n-2)! \qquad [\text{provided } (n \geq 2)]$$
$$= n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)! \qquad [\text{provided } (n \geq 3)]$$

and so on.

Example 5 Evaluate (i) 5 ! (ii) 7 ! (iii) 7 ! – 5!

Solution (i) $5\,! = 1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 \times 5 = 120$

(ii) $7\,! = 1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 \times 5 \times 6 \times 7 = 5040$

and (iii) $7\,! - 5! = 5040 - 120 = 4920$.

Example 6 Compute (i) $\frac{7!}{5!}$ (ii) $\frac{12!}{(10!)\,(2!)}$

Solution (i) We have $\frac{7!}{5!} = \frac{7\times6\times5!}{5!} = 7 \times 6 = 42$

and (ii) $\frac{12!}{(10!)\,(2!)} = \frac{12\times11\times(10!)}{(10!)\times(2)} = 6 \times 11 = 66$.

Example 7 Evaluate $\frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$, when $n = 5$, $r = 2$.

Solution We have to evaluate $\frac{5!}{2!(5-2)!}$ (since $n = 5$, $r = 2$)

We have $\frac{5!}{2\,!(5-2)!} = \frac{5!}{2!\times3!} = \frac{5\times4}{2} = 10$.

Example 8 If $\frac{1}{8!} + \frac{1}{9!} = \frac{x}{10!}$, find x.

Solution We have $\frac{1}{8!} + \frac{1}{9\times8!} = \frac{x}{10\times9\times8!}$

Therefore $1 + \frac{1}{9} = \frac{x}{10\times9}$ or $\frac{10}{9} = \frac{x}{10\times9}$

So $x = 100$.

EXERCISE 7.2

1. Evaluate

(i) 8 ! (ii) 4 ! – 3 !

2. Is 3 ! + 4 ! = 7 ! ?

3. Compute $\frac{8!}{6! \times 2!}$

4. If $\frac{1}{6!} + \frac{1}{7!} = \frac{x}{8!}$, find x

5. Evaluate $\frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$, when

(i) $n = 6, r = 2$ (ii) $n = 9, r = 5$.

7.3.3 *Derivation of the formula for* ^nP_r

$$^nP_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!},\ 0 \le r \le n$$

Let us now go back to the stage where we had determined the following formula:

$$^nP_r = n\ (n - 1)\ (n - 2) \ldots (n - r + 1)$$

Multiplying numerator and denomirator by $(n - r)\ (n - r - 1) \ldots 3 \times 2 \times 1$, we get

$$^nP_r = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)\ldots(n-r+1)(n-r)(n-r-1)\ldots3\times2\times1}{(n-r)(n-r-1)\ldots3\times2\times1} = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!},$$

Thus $$^nP_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!},\ \text{where } 0 < r \le n$$

This is a much more convenient expression for ^nP_r than the previous one.

In particular, when $r = n$, $^nP_n = \frac{n!}{0!} = n!$

Counting permutations is merely counting the number of ways in which some or all objects at a time are rearranged. Arranging no object at all is the same as leaving behind all the objects and we know that there is only one way of doing so. Thus, we can have

$$^nP_0 = 1 = \frac{n!}{n!} = \frac{n!}{(n-0)!} \qquad \ldots (1)$$

Therefore, the formula (1) is applicable for $r = 0$ also.

Thus $$^nP_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!},\ 0 \le r \le n.$$

Theorem 2 The number of permutations of n different objects taken r at a time, where repetition is allowed, is n^r.

Proof is very similar to that of Theorem 1 and is left for the reader to arrive at.

Here, we are solving some of the problems of the pervious Section using the formula for ${}^nP_r$ to illustrate its usefulness.

In Example 1, the required number of words = ${}^4P_4 = 4! = 24$. Here repetition is not allowed. If repetition is allowed, the required number of words would be $4^4 = 256$.

The number of 3-letter words which can be formed by the letters of the word NUMBER = ${}^6P_3 = \frac{6!}{3!} = 4 \times 5 \times 6 = 120$. Here, in this case also, the repetition is not allowed. If the repetition is allowed,the required number of words would be $6^3 = 216$.

The number of ways in which a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman can be chosen from amongst a group of 12 persons assuming that one person can not hold more than one position, clearly ${}^{12}P_2 = \frac{12!}{10!} = 11 \times 12 = 132$.

7.3.4 Permutations when all the objects are not distinct objects Suppose we have to find the number of ways of rearranging the letters of the word ROOT. In this case, the letters of the word are not all different. There are 2 Os, which are of the same kind. Let us treat, temporarily, the 2 Os as different, say, O_1 and O_2. The number of permutations of 4-different letters, in this case, taken all at a time is 4!. Consider one of these permutations say, RO_1O_2T. Corresponding to this permutation,we have 2 ! permutations RO_1O_2T and RO_2O_1T which will be exactly the same permutation if O_1 and O_2 are not treated as different, i.e., if O_1 and O_2 are the same O at both places.

Therefore, the required number of permutations = $\frac{4!}{2!} = 3 \times 4 = 12$.

Permutations when O_1, O_2 are different.		Permutations when O_1, O_2 are the same O.
RO_1O_2T, RO_2O_1T	$\longrightarrow$	R O O T
TO_1O_2R, TO_2O_1R	$\longrightarrow$	T O O R

$R O_1 T O_2$ $R O_2 T O_1$	$\longrightarrow$	R O T O
$T O_1 R O_2$ $T O_2 R O_1$	$\longrightarrow$	T O R O
$R T O_1 O_2$ $R T O_2 O_1$	$\longrightarrow$	R T O O
$T R O_1 O_2$ $T R O_2 O_1$	$\longrightarrow$	T R O O
$O_1 O_2 R T$ $O_2 O_1 T R$	$\longrightarrow$	O O R T
$O_1 R O_2 T$ $O_2 R O_1 T$	$\longrightarrow$	O R O T
$O_1 T O_2 R$ $O_2 T O_1 R$	$\longrightarrow$	O T O R
$O_1 R T O_2$ $O_2 R T O_1$	$\longrightarrow$	O R T O
$O_1 T R O_2$ $O_2 T R O_1$	$\longrightarrow$	O T R O
$O_1 O_2 T R$ $O_2 O_1 T R$	$\longrightarrow$	O O T R

Let us now find the number of ways of rearranging the letters of the word INSTITUTE. In this case there are 9 letters, in which I appears 2 times and T appears 3 times.

Temporarily, let us treat these letters different and name them as I_1, I_2, T_1, T_2, T_3. The number of permutations of 9 different letters, in this case, taken all at a time is 9 !. Consider one such permutation, say, $I_1 NT_1 SI_2 T_2 U E T_3$. Here if I_1, I_2 are not same and T_1, T_2, T_3 are not same, then I_1, I_2 can be arranged in 2! ways and T_1, T_2, T_3 can be arranged in 3! ways. Therefore, $2! \times 3!$ permutations will be just the same permutation corresponding to this chosen permutation $I_1NT_1SI_2T_2UET_3$. Hence, total number of different permutations will be $\frac{9!}{2!\,3!}$

We can state (without proof) the following theorems:

Theorem 3 The number of permutations of n objects, where p objects are of the same kind and rest are all different $= \frac{n!}{p!}$.

In fact, we have a more general theorem.

Theorem 4 The number of permutations of n objects, where p_1 objects are of one kind, p_2 are of second kind, ..., p_k are of k^{th} kind and the rest, if any, are of different kind is $\frac{n!}{p_1!\, p_2! \ldots p_k!}$.

Example 9 Find the number of permutations of the letters of the word ALLAHABAD.

Solution Here, there are 9 objects (letters) of which there are 4A's, 2 L's and rest are all different.

Therefore, the required number of arrangements $= \frac{9!}{4!\,2!} = \frac{5 \times 6 \times 7 \times 8 \times 9}{2} = 7560$

Example 10 How many 4-digit numbers can be formed by using the digits 1 to 9 if repetition of digits is not allowed?

Solution Here order matters for example 1234 and 1324 are two different numbers. Therefore, there will be as many 4 digit numbers as there are permutations of 9 different digits taken 4 at a time.

Therefore, the required 4 digit numbers $= {}^9P_4 = \frac{9!}{(9-4)!} = \frac{9!}{5!} = 9 \times 8 \times 7 \times 6 = 3024$.

Example 11 How many numbers lying between 100 and 1000 can be formed with the digits 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, if the repetition of the digits is not allowed?

Solution Every number between 100 and 1000 is a 3-digit number. We, first, have to count the permutations of 6 digits taken 3 at a time. This number would be ${}^6P_3$. But, these permutations will include those also where 0 is at the 100's place. For example, 092, 042, . . ., etc are such numbers which are actually 2-digit numbers and hence the number of such numbers has to be subtracted from ${}^6P_3$ to get the required number. To get the number of such numbers, we fix 0 at the 100's place and rearrange the remaining 5 digits taking 2 at a time. This number is ${}^5P_2$. So

The required number $= {}^6P_3 - {}^5P_2 = \frac{6!}{3!} - \frac{5!}{3!}$

$= 4 \times 5 \times 6 - 4 \times 5 = 100$

Example 12 Find the value of n such that

(i) ${}^nP_5 = 42\ {}^nP_3,\ n > 4$ (ii) $\frac{{}^nP_4}{{}^{n-1}P_4} = \frac{5}{3},\ n > 4$

Solution (i) Given that

${}^nP_5 = 42\ {}^nP_3$

or $n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)(n-4) = 42\ n(n-1)(n-2)$

Since $n > 4$ so $n(n-1)(n-2) \neq 0$

Therefore, by dividing both sides by $n(n-1)(n-2)$, we get

$(n - 3 (n - 4) = 42$

or $n^2 - 7n - 30 = 0$

or $n^2 - 10n + 3n - 30$

or $(n - 10)(n + 3) = 0$

or $n - 10 = 0$ or $n + 3 = 0$

or $n = 10$ or $n = -3$

As n cannot be negative, so $n = 10$.

(ii) Given that $\frac{{}^nP_4}{{}^{n-1}P_4} = \frac{5}{3}$

Therefore $3n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3) = 5(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)(n-4)$

or $3n = 5(n-4)$ [as $(n-1)(n-2)(n-3) \neq 0,\ n > 4$]

or $n = 10$.

Example 13 Find r, if $5\ {}^4P_r = 6\ {}^5P_{r-1}$.

Solution We have $5\ {}^4P_r = 6\ {}^5P_{r-1}$

or $$5 \times \frac{4!}{(4-r)!} = 6 \times \frac{5!}{(5-r+1)!}$$

or $$\frac{5!}{(4-r)!} = \frac{6 \times 5!}{(5-r+1)(5-r)(5-r-1)!}$$

or $(6 - r)(5 - r) = 6$

or $r^2 - 11r + 24 = 0$

or $r^2 - 8r - 3r + 24 = 0$

or $(r - 8)(r - 3) = 0$

or $r = 8$ or $r = 3$.

Hence $r = 8, 3$.

Example 14 Find the number of different 8-letter arrangements that can be made from the letters of the word DAUGHTER so that

(i) all vowels occur together (ii) all vowels do not occur together.

Solution (i) There are 8 different letters in the word DAUGHTER, in which there are 3 vowels, namely, A, U and E. Since the vowels have to occur together, we can for the time being, assume them as a single object (AUE). This single object together with 5 remaining letters (objects) will be counted as 6 objects. Then we count permutations of these 6 objects taken all at a time. This number would be ${}^6P_6 = 6!$. Corresponding to each of these permutations, we shall have 3! permutations of the three vowels A, U, E taken all at a time . Hence, by the multiplication principle the required number of permutations $= 6\,! \times 3\,! = 4320$.

(ii) If we have to count those permutations in which all vowels are never together, we first have to find all possible arrangments of 8 letters taken all at a time, which can be done in 8! ways. Then, we have to subtract from this number, the number of permutations in which the vowels are always together.

Therefore, the required number $8\,! - 6\,! \times 3\,! = 6\,!\,(7\times8 - 6)$

$= 2 \times 6\,!\,(28 - 3)$

$= 50 \times 6\,! = 50 \times 720 = 36000$

Example 15 In how many ways can 4 red, 3 yellow and 2 green discs be arranged in a row if the discs of the same colour are indistinguishable ?

Solution Total number of discs are $4 + 3 + 2 = 9$. Out of 9 discs, 4 are of the first kind (red), 3 are of the second kind (yellow) and 2 are of the third kind (green).

Therefore, the number of arrangements $\frac{9!}{4!\,3!\,2!} = 1260$.

Example 16 Find the number of arrangements of the letters of the word INDEPENDENCE. In how many of these arrangements,

(i) do the words start with P
(ii) do all the vowels always occur together
(iii) do the vowels never occur together
(iv) do the words begin with I and end in P?

Solution There are 12 letters, of which N appears 3 times, E appears 4 times and D appears 2 times and the rest are all different. Therefore

The required number of arrangements $= \frac{12!}{3!\,4!\,2!} = 1663200$

(i) Let us fix P at the extreme left position, we, then, count the arrangements of the remaining 11 letters. Therefore, the required number of words starting with P

$$= \frac{11!}{3!\,2!\,4!} = 138600.$$

(ii) There are 5 vowels in the given word, which are 4 Es and 1 I. Since, they have to always occur together, we treat them as a single object $\boxed{\text{EEEEI}}$ for the time being. This single object together with 7 remaining objects will account for 8 objects. These 8 objects, in which there are 3Ns and 2 Ds, can be rearranged in $\frac{8!}{3!\,2!}$ ways. Corresponding to each of these arrangements, the 5 vowels E, E, E, E and I can be rearranged in $\frac{5!}{4!}$ ways. Therefore, by multiplication principle, the required number of arrangements

$$= \frac{8!}{3!\,2!} \times \frac{5!}{4!} = 16800$$

(iii) The required number of arrangements
= the total number of arrangements (without any restriction) – the number of arrangements where all the vowels occur together.

$$= 1663200 - 16800 = 1646400$$

(iv) Let us fix I and P at the extreme ends (I at the left end and P at the right end). We are left with 10 letters.
Hence, the required number of arrangements

$$= \frac{10!}{3!\,2!\,4!} = 12600$$

EXERCISE 7.3

1. How many 3-digit numbers can be formed by using the digits 1 to 9 if no digit is repeated?
2. How many 4-digit numbers are there with no digit repeated?
3. How many 3-digit even numbers can be made using the digits 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, if no digit is repeated?
4. Find the number of 4-digit numbers that can be formed using the digits 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 if no digit is repeated. How many of these will be even?
5. From a committee of 8 persons, in how many ways can we choose a chairman and a vice chairman assuming one person can not hold more than one position?
6. Find n if ${}^{n-1}P_3 : {}^{n}P_4 = 1 : 9$.
7. Find r if (i) ${}^{5}P_r = 2\,{}^{6}P_{r-1}$ (ii) ${}^{5}P_r = {}^{6}P_{r-1}$.
8. How many words, with or without meaning, can be formed using all the letters of the word EQUATION, using each letter exactly once?
9. How many words, with or without meaning can be made from the letters of the word MONDAY, assuming that no letter is repeated, if.
   (i) 4 letters are used at a time, (ii) all letters are used at a time,
   (iii) all letters are used but first letter is a vowel?
10. In how many of the distinct permutations of the letters in MISSISSIPPI do the four I's not come together?
11. In how many ways can the letters of the word PERMUTATIONS be arranged if the
    (i) words start with P and end with S, (ii) vowels are all together,
    (iii) there are always 4 letters between P and S?

7.4 Combinations

Let us now assume that there is a group of 3 lawn tennis players X, Y, Z. A team consisting of 2 players is to be formed. In how many ways can we do so? Is the team of X and Y different from the team of Y and X ? Here, order is not important. In fact, there are only 3 possible ways in which the team could be constructed.

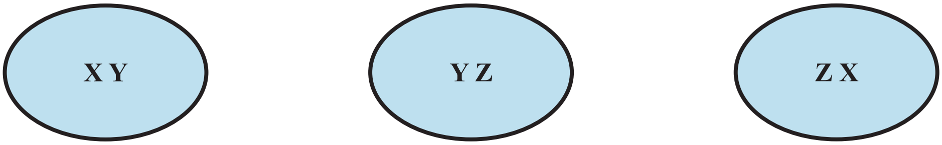

Fig. 7.3

These are XY, YZ and ZX (Fig 7.3).

Here, each selection is called a *combination of 3 different objects taken 2 at a time*. In a combination, the order is not important.

Now consider some more illustrations.

Twelve persons meet in a room and each shakes hand with all the others. How do we determine the number of hand shakes. X shaking hands with Y and Y with X will not be two different hand shakes. Here, order is not important. There will be as many hand shakes as there are combinations of 12 different things taken 2 at a time.

Seven points lie on a circle. How many chords can be drawn by joining these points pairwise? There will be as many chords as there are combinations of 7 different things taken 2 at a time.

Now, we obtain the formula for finding the number of combinations of n different objects taken r at a time, denoted by ${}^nC_r$..

Suppose we have 4 different objects A, B, C and D. Taking 2 at a time, if we have to make combinations, these will be AB, AC, AD, BC, BD, CD. Here, AB and BA are the same combination as order does not alter the combination. This is why we have not included BA, CA, DA, CB, DB and DC in this list. There are as many as 6 combinations of 4 different objects taken 2 at a time, i.e., ${}^4C_2 = 6$.

Corresponding to each combination in the list, we can arrive at 2! permutations as 2 objects in each combination can be rearranged in 2! ways. Hence, the number of permutations = ${}^4C_2 \times 2!$.

On the other hand, the number of permutations of 4 different things taken 2 at a time = ${}^4P_2$.

Therefore $\mathbf{{}^4P_2 = {}^4C_2 \times 2!}$ or $\dfrac{4!}{(4-2)!\,2!} = {}^4C_2$

Now, let us suppose that we have 5 different objects A, B, C, D, E. Taking 3 at a time, if we have to make combinations, these will be ABC, ABD, ABE, BCD, BCE, CDE, ACE, ACD, ADE, BDE. Corresponding to each of these ${}^5C_3$ combinations, there are 3! permutations, because, the three objects in each combination can be rearranged in 3 ! ways. Therefore, the total of permutations = ${}^5C_3 \times 3!$

Therefore $\;{}^5P_3 = {}^5C_3 \times 3!\;$ or $\dfrac{5!}{(5-3)!\;3!} = {}^5C_3$

These examples suggest the following theorem showing relationship between permutaion and combination:

Theorem 5 ${}^nP_r = {}^nC_r\ r!,\ 0 < r \le n.$

Proof Corresponding to each combination of ${}^nC_r$, we have r ! permutations, because r objects in every combination can be rearranged in r ! ways.

Hence, the total number of permutations of n different things taken r at a time is ${}^nC_r \times r!$. On the other hand, it is ${}^nP_r$. Thus

$$ {}^nP_r = {}^nC_r \times r!,\ 0 < r \le n. $$

Remarks **1.** From above $\dfrac{n!}{(n-r)!} = {}^nC_r \times r!$, i.e., $\;{}^nC_r = \dfrac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$.

In particular, if $r = n$, ${}^nC_n = \dfrac{n!}{n!\ 0!} = 1$.

2. We define ${}^nC_0 = 1$, i.e., the number of combinations of n different things taken nothing at all is considered to be 1. Counting combinations is merely counting the number of ways in which some or all objects at a time are selected. Selecting nothing at all is the same as leaving behind all the objects and we know that there is only one way of doing so. This way we define ${}^nC_0 = 1$.

3. As $\dfrac{n!}{0!(n-0)!} = 1 = {}^nC_0$, the formula ${}^nC_r = \dfrac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$ is applicable for $r = 0$ also.

Hence

$$ {}^nC_r = \frac{n!}{r!\ (n-r)!},\ 0 \le r \le n. $$

4. $\displaystyle {}^nC_{n-r} = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!(n-(n-r))!} = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!r!} = {}^nC_r,$

i.e., selecting r objects out of n objects is same as rejecting $(n - r)$ objects.

5. ${}^nC_a = {}^nC_b \Rightarrow a = b$ or $a = n - b$, i.e., $n = a + b$

Theorem 6 ${}^nC_r + {}^nC_{r-1} = {}^{n+1}C_r$

Proof We have ${}^nC_r + {}^nC_{r-1} = \dfrac{n!}{r!(n-r)!} + \dfrac{n!}{(r-1)!(n-r+1)!}$

$$= \frac{n!}{r\times(r-1)!(n-r)!} + \frac{n!}{(r-1)!(n-r+1)\,(n-r)!}$$

$$= \frac{n!}{(r-1)!(n-r)!}\left[\frac{1}{r} + \frac{1}{n-r+1}\right]$$

$$= \frac{n!}{(r-1)!(n-r)!} \times \frac{n-r+1+r}{r(n-r+1)} = \frac{(n+1)!}{r!(n+1-r)!} = {}^{n+1}C_r$$

Example 17 If ${}^nC_9 = {}^nC_8$, find ${}^nC_{17}$.

Solution We have ${}^nC_9 = {}^nC_8$

i.e., $\dfrac{n!}{9!(n-9)!} = \dfrac{n!}{(n-8)!\,8!}$

or $\dfrac{1}{9} = \dfrac{1}{n-8}$ or $n - 8 = 9$ or $n = 17$

Therefore ${}^nC_{17} = {}^{17}C_{17} = 1$.

Example 18 A committee of 3 persons is to be constituted from a group of 2 men and 3 women. In how many ways can this be done? How many of these committees would consist of 1 man and 2 women?

Solution Here, order does not matter. Therefore, we need to count combinations. There will be as many committees as there are combinations of 5 different persons taken 3 at a time. Hence, the required number of ways = ${}^5C_3 = \dfrac{5!}{3!\,2!} = \dfrac{4\times5}{2} = 10$.

Now, 1 man can be selected from 2 men in ${}^2C_1$ ways and 2 women can be selected from 3 women in ${}^3C_2$ ways. Therefore, the required number of committees

$$= {}^2C_1 \times {}^3C_2 = \frac{2!}{1!\ 1!} \times \frac{3!}{2!\ 1!} = 6.$$

Example 19 What is the number of ways of choosing 4 cards from a pack of 52 playing cards? In how many of these

(i) four cards are of the same suit,

(ii) four cards belong to four different suits,

(iii) are face cards,

(iv) two are red cards and two are black cards,

(v) cards are of the same colour?

Solution There will be as many ways of choosing 4 cards from 52 cards as there are combinations of 52 different things, taken 4 at a time. Therefore

The required number of ways = ${}^{52}C_4 = \frac{52!}{4!\ 48!} = \frac{49 \times 50 \times 51 \times 52}{2 \times 3 \times 4}$

$= 270725$

(i) There are four suits: diamond, club, spade, heart and there are 13 cards of each suit. Therefore, there are ${}^{13}C_4$ ways of choosing 4 diamonds. Similarly, there are ${}^{13}C_4$ ways of choosing 4 clubs, ${}^{13}C_4$ ways of choosing 4 spades and ${}^{13}C_4$ ways of choosing 4 hearts. Therefore

The required number of ways = ${}^{13}C_4 + {}^{13}C_4 + {}^{13}C_4 + {}^{13}C_4$.

$$= 4 \times \frac{13!}{4!\ 9!} = 2860$$

(ii) There are13 cards in each suit.

Therefore, there are ${}^{13}C_1$ ways of choosing 1 card from 13 cards of diamond, ${}^{13}C_1$ ways of choosing 1 card from 13 cards of hearts, ${}^{13}C_1$ ways of choosing 1 card from 13 cards of clubs, ${}^{13}C_1$ ways of choosing 1 card from 13 cards of spades. Hence, by multiplication principle, the required number of ways

$$= {}^{13}C_1 \times {}^{13}C_1 \times {}^{13}C_1 \times {}^{13}C_1 = 13^4$$

(iii) There are 12 face cards and 4 are to be selected out of these 12 cards. This can be done in ${}^{12}C_4$ ways. Therefore, the required number of ways = $\frac{12!}{4!\ 8!} = 495$.

(iv) There are 26 red cards and 26 black cards. Therefore, the required number of ways = ${}^{26}C_2 \times {}^{26}C_2$

$$= \left(\frac{26!}{2!\ 24!}\right)^2 = (325)^2 = 105625$$

(v) 4 red cards can be selected out of 26 red cards in ${}^{26}C_4$ ways. 4 black cards can be selected out of 26 black cards in ${}^{26}C_4$ ways.

Therefore, the required number of ways = ${}^{26}C_4 + {}^{26}C_4$

$$= 2 \times \frac{26!}{4!\ 22!} = 29900.$$

EXERCISE 7.4

1. If ${}^{n}C_8 = {}^{n}C_2$, find ${}^{n}C_2$.

2. Determine n if

(i) ${}^{2n}C_3 : {}^{n}C_3 = 12 : 1$ (ii) ${}^{2n}C_3 : {}^{n}C_3 = 11 : 1$

3. How many chords can be drawn through 21 points on a circle?

4. In how many ways can a team of 3 boys and 3 girls be selected from 5 boys and 4 girls?

5. Find the number of ways of selecting 9 balls from 6 red balls, 5 white balls and 5 blue balls if each selection consists of 3 balls of each colour.

6. Determine the number of 5 card combinations out of a deck of 52 cards if there is exactly one ace in each combination.

7. In how many ways can one select a cricket team of eleven from 17 players in which only 5 players can bowl if each cricket team of 11 must include exactly 4 bowlers?

8. A bag contains 5 black and 6 red balls. Determine the number of ways in which 2 black and 3 red balls can be selected.

9. In how many ways can a student choose a programme of 5 courses if 9 courses are available and 2 specific courses are compulsory for every student?

Miscellaneous Examples

Example 20 How many words, with or without meaning, each of 3 vowels and 2 consonants can be formed from the letters of the word INVOLUTE ?

Solution In the word INVOLUTE, there are 4 vowels, namely, I,O,E,Uand 4 consonants, namely, N, V, L and T.