

Basic Order of Operations - Guided Lesson Explanation

We use the acronym PEMDAS to determine the order in which we process operations. The first indicates the first operation that gets processed. Every letter that follows is the order in which we process the operations.

- 1) Parenthesis
- 2) Exponents
- 3) Multiplication
- 4) Division
- 5) Addition
- 6) Subtraction

All of these problems just use addition and subtraction. We add before we subtract in a left to right manner.

Explanation#1

$$2 + 7 - 3 = 6$$

$$2 + 7 = 9, \text{ second less } 9 - 3 = 6$$

Answer is: 6

Explanation#2

$$3 + 6 - 5 = 4$$

$$\text{First add } 3 + 6 = 9, \text{ second less } 9 - 5 = 4$$

Answer is: (+)

Explanation#3

First subtract 15 and 4 then subtract 6 in order from left to right.

$$15 - 4 - 6 = 5$$

$$\text{First subtract } 15 - 4 = 9, \text{ second less } 9 - 6 = 5$$

Answer is: (-)

