

1. How many seven-card hands with 3 diamonds, 2 hearts, and 2 black cards can be dealt from a standard deck of 52 cards?

Solution: we can take 3 diamonds from 13 in  $C(13, 3) = 286$  ways, 2 hearts in  $C(13, 2) = 78$  ways, and 2 black cards in  $C(26, 2) = 325$  ways. By multiplication principle the answer is  $C(13, 3) \times C(13, 2) \times C(26, 2) = 286 \times 78 \times 325 = 7250100$ .

2. In how many ways 5 history books, 7 biology books, and 8 sociology books can be arranged if the books on the same subject should stand together?

Solution: history books can be arranged in  $5! = 120$  ways, biology books in  $7! = 5040$  ways, and sociology books in  $8! = 40320$  ways. The subjects can be arranged in  $3! = 6$  ways. By multiplication principle the answer is  $3! \times 5! \times 7! \times 8! = 6 \times 120 \times 5040 \times 40320 = 146313216000$ .

3. How many six-letter “words” exist if we use all letters of English alphabet and repetitions are allowed?

Solution: 26 possibilities for the first letter, 26 for the second, and so on. By multiplication principle the answer is  $26^6 = 308915776$ .

4. The same question as in Problem 3 if repetitions are not allowed.

Solution: we choose 6 different objects from 26; the answer is  $P(26, 6) = 165765600$ .

5. The same question as in Problem 3 if the string must contain exactly two letters “a”.

Solution: We can position two letters “a” in  $C(6, 2)$  ways. Remaining positions can be occupied by any of 25 letters (“a” excluded). Therefore the answer is  $C(6, 2) \times 25^4 = 15 \times 25^4 = 5859375$ .

6. How many different 9-letter strings one can make from the letters in the word COMMITTEE?

Solution: If all the letters were different the answer would be  $9!$ . Because we have three pairs of identical letters (MM, TT, and EE) the answer is

$$\frac{9!}{2!2!2!} = 45360.$$

7. Write the binomial expansion of the expression  $(3z - 1)^5$ .

Solution: we use line five of Pascal’s triangle to write

$$\begin{aligned} [3z + (-1)]^5 &= (3z)^5 + 5(3z)^4(-1) + 10(3z)^3(-1)^2 + 10(3z)^2(-1)^3 + 5(3z)(-1)^4 + (-1)^5 = \\ &= 243z^5 - 405z^4 + 270z^3 - 90z^2 + 15z - 1. \end{aligned}$$