

## Set of numbers

Several sets are used so often, they are given special symbols.

$\mathbf{N}$  = the set of *natural numbers* or positive integers

$$\mathbf{N} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$$

$\mathbf{Z}$  = the set of all integers:  $\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots$

$$\mathbf{Z} = \mathbf{N} \cup \{\dots, -2, -1\}$$

$\mathbf{Q}$  = the set of rational numbers

$$\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{Z} \cup \{\dots, -1/3, -1/2, 1/2, 1/3, \dots, 2/3, 2/5, \dots\}$$

$$\text{Where } \mathbf{Q} = \{a/b : a, b \in \mathbf{Z}, b \neq 0\}$$

$\mathbf{R}$  = the set of real numbers

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{Q} \cup \{\dots, -\pi, -\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{2}, \pi, \dots\}$$

$\mathbf{C}$  = the set of complex numbers

$$\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{R} \cup \{i, 1+i, 1-i, \sqrt{2} + \pi i, \dots\}$$

$$\text{Where } \mathbf{C} = \{x + iy ; x, y \in \mathbf{R}; i = \sqrt{-1}\}$$

Observe that  $\mathbf{N} \subset \mathbf{Z} \subset \mathbf{Q} \subset \mathbf{R} \subset \mathbf{C}$ .

**Theorem 1:**

For any set A, B, C:

1-  $\emptyset \subset A \subset U$ .

2-  $A \subset A$ .

3- If  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset C$ , then  $A \subset C$ .

4-  $A = B$  if and only if  $A \subset B$  and  $B \subset A$ .