

PRELIMINARY LESSON

- INTRODUCTION TO NUMERALS AND THE NUMERIC INDICATOR
- THE MATHEMATICAL COMMA AND DECIMAL POINT
- INTRODUCTION TO SIGNS OF OPERATION
- INTRODUCTION TO SIGNS OF COMPARISON
- MONETARY, PERCENT, AND PRIME SIGNS
- EUROPEAN SYMBOLS

Format

- General Principles

Answers to Practice Material

LESSON PREVIEW

This lesson introduces the student to the design of the course as well as some basic Nemeth symbols. *Complete this lesson before studying Lesson 1.* Practice exercises are self scored, and a short reading exercise is offered in Appendix A.

P1 Philosophy

The Nemeth braille code is especially designed for the representation and transcription of mathematical notation encountered in educational materials on the subjects of mathematics and the sciences. Its purpose is to convey, as accurately as possible, a clear conception of the printed text to the braille reader. Using braille indicators in conjunction with the 63 braille characters, this code is capable of providing equivalent symbols for the hundreds of mathematical and scientific print signs now in use and yet to be devised. The one-to-one correspondence between braille and print symbols makes it possible to produce an accurate transference from print to braille or from braille to print.

P2 Literary vs. Technical Texts

P2.1 Literary Texts. Literary works which use only occasional mathematical notation are transcribed in accordance with the rules of Unified English Braille ("UEB"), using mathematical symbols and rules given in the most recent edition of *The Rules of Unified English Braille* and *Unified English Braille Guidelines for Technical Material*.

P2.2 Technical Texts. When mathematical notation is encountered in educational materials or in technical documents in the fields of mathematics, statistics, physics, or chemistry, the rules of the Nemeth Code are followed. Non mathematical narrative is transcribed using the symbols and

EUROPEAN SYMBOLS

P13 The European Comma

The print symbol for the European comma is different from the comma used in the United States. The braille symbol follows print.

 European Mathematical Comma .

Example P-21

27,000 = 27.000 = 27 000



The symbol transcribed for each comma follows print. Dot 6 represents the American comma; dots 46 represent the European comma.

P14 The European Decimal Point

The print symbol for the European decimal point is different from the decimal used in the United States. The braille symbol follows print.

 European Decimal Point ,

Example P-22

\$19.99 < £19,99



The symbol transcribed for each decimal point follows print: Dots 46 represent the American decimal point; dot 6 represents the European decimal point.

<i>For further practice, see Appendix A—Reading Practice.</i>

ANSWERS TO PRACTICE MATERIAL

PRACTICE A

- 1
- 2
- 3

PRACTICE B

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6

Did You Know? The numbers in the rightmost column are significant scientific or mathematical numbers.

- | | |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 4.6692 | the first six digits of one of Feigenbaum's constants from chaos theory |
| 98.6 | average healthy human body temperature in degrees Fahrenheit |
| 3.14159 | the first six digits of pi |
| 31,536,000 | the number of seconds in a year |
| 365.2422 | the number of days in a solar year |
| 273.15 | degrees Kelvin equivalent to zero degrees Celsius |

PRACTICE C

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

