

## LESSON 2

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### LESSON PREVIEW

The punctuation indicator is introduced as we take a closer look at punctuation inside the switches. Summaries are given regarding the use/nonuse of the punctuation indicator. Nemeth grouping symbols are introduced. Code switching within numbered/lettered formats is discussed. Nemeth rules regarding hyphenated expressions are given. An alternate layout option for itemized material is considered.

## ***MORE ABOUT PUNCTUATION***

### 2.1 Punctuation Mode

Punctuation mode is determined by whether the punctuation occurs inside or outside of the Nemeth switches. The concept is simple – punctuation that occurs outside of the switch indicators is transcribed in "literary mode" according to the rules of Unified English Braille; punctuation occurring within the switch indicators is transcribed in "mathematical mode" according to the rules of the Nemeth Code. Take another look at this example from Lesson 1, noting that UEB punctuation is used for the question mark and the Nemeth comma and ellipsis are used in the mathematical portion.

#### Example 2-1

What is the secret clue in this series? 5.0, 8.2, 11.4, 14.6, ...

The image shows the Braille transcription of the text 'What is the secret clue in this series? 5.0, 8.2, 11.4, 14.6, ...'. The question mark and the text 'What is the secret clue in this series?' are in literary mode. The mathematical portion '5.0, 8.2, 11.4, 14.6, ...' is enclosed in Nemeth Code switch indicators. Inside the switches, the decimal points are transcribed as dot 6 (mathematical comma), and the ellipsis is transcribed as dots (3, 3, 3) (mathematical ellipsis). Outside the switches, the decimal points are transcribed as dot 2 (literary comma), and there are no dots for the ellipsis.

*The mathematical comma is dot 6. Switch Decision: The ellipsis indicates that the mathematical series continues and so is transcribed in Nemeth. The mathematical ellipsis is dots (3, 3, 3).*

### 2.2 Spacing of UEB Punctuation and Code Switch Indicators

As shown in Lesson 1, punctuation that relates to the main text is placed outside of the switch indicators when the surrounding text is in UEB. There is no space between the terminator and the following punctuation unless the following punctuation is a spaced dash.

#### Example 2-2

To begin, divide  $64 \div 8$ , then subtract.

The image shows the Braille transcription of the text 'To begin, divide 64 ÷ 8, then subtract.'. The text is in literary mode. The mathematical portion '64 ÷ 8' is enclosed in Nemeth Code switch indicators. The comma following the switch indicator is transcribed as dot 2 (literary comma) and is placed outside the switch indicator. The terminator is also placed outside the switch indicator.

*Note the use of the literary comma (dot 2) outside of the Nemeth Code terminator.*

#### Example 2-3

Divide  $64 \div 8$ —then subtract.

The image shows the Braille transcription of the text 'Divide 64 ÷ 8—then subtract.'. The text is in literary mode. The mathematical portion '64 ÷ 8' is enclosed in Nemeth Code switch indicators. The unspaced dash following the switch indicator is transcribed as dot 2 (mathematical dash) and is placed inside the switch indicator. The terminator is also placed inside the switch indicator.

*The unspaced dash is part of the sentence punctuation and is placed outside of the Nemeth Code terminator.*



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*Instructions:* Consider carefully where to place the code switch indicators and what kind of punctuation to use in these three sentences. Apply 3-1 Nemeth paragraphing.

**PRACTICE 2A**

72813654, when written as 72 81 36 54, is obviously divisible by 9.

Write these numbers: 3.29, 500, -123, 2,000.88, -250,794. Now add them together.

Is the answer 4.0‰, or is it 4.0%?

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## ***PUNCTUATION IN NEMETH CODE***

### **2.4 Background**

So far we have looked at punctuation that is unambiguous in mathematical context: the mathematical comma and the short dash. These symbols are different from their UEB counterparts.

- ⦿ ⦿      Mathematical comma
- ⦿ ⦿ ⦿      Short dash

When other punctuation marks are transcribed inside the Nemeth switches, the punctuation symbols from UEB are used: the apostrophe, colon, exclamation point, period, question mark, quotation marks, and semicolon. (*Note:* Only the one-cell "double" quotation marks ⦿ ⦿ and the two-cell "single" quotation marks ⦿ ⦿ ⦿ ⦿ are used inside the Nemeth switches.) When a punctuation mark is not preceded by a space, clarification is required because the symbols are formed with the same braille dots as Nemeth numerals and symbols, as demonstrated in this list.

A semicolon ⦿ ⦿ could be misread in Nemeth as the numeral 2.  
A colon ⦿ ⦿ could be misread in Nemeth as the numeral 3.  
A period ⦿ ⦿ could be misread in Nemeth as the numeral 4.  
An exclamation point ⦿ ⦿ could be misread in Nemeth as the numeral 6.  
A question mark ⦿ ⦿ could be misread in Nemeth as the numeral 8.  
A closing "double" quotation mark ⦿ ⦿ could be misread in Nemeth as the numeral 0.  
A closing "single" quotation mark ⦿ ⦿ ⦿ ⦿ could be misread in Nemeth as a comma and the numeral 0.  
An apostrophe ⦿ ⦿ could be misread in Nemeth as a prime sign.

Clarification is achieved by use of the *punctuation indicator*.

### ***The Punctuation Indicator***

### **2.5 Role of the Punctuation Indicator**

A punctuation indicator is placed before one or more of the punctuation marks listed in the box on the previous page when such punctuation is not preceded by a space. (A punctuation indicator is not used at the beginning of a braille line or after a space.) Use of the punctuation indicator assures that the braille is read as punctuation and is not misread as a mathematical symbol.

⦿ Punctuation Indicator





➤ 3:30

UEB: ⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤

Nemeth: ⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤

Recall from Lesson 1 that the numeric indicator is not restated when a hyphen connects Nemeth numerals.

➤ 7:45-8:20

UEB: ⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤

Nemeth: ⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤

Example 2-10

Last night, Jayquan arrived at 7:45 and left at 8:20. Use the shortcut method to figure out how many minutes he stayed.  $7:45-8:20 = 15+20 = 35$ . Jayquan stayed for 35 minutes.

1      ⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤

2      ⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤

3      ⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤

4      ⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤

5      ⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤

*It is not necessary for the digital time to be transcribed in the same code within the same word problem. UEB is used in the narrative (lines 1 and 2) and Nemeth is used in the computation (line 4).*

### 2.6 Punctuation with Omission Signs

When a sign of omission represents omitted mathematical content the appropriate Nemeth symbol is transcribed. A Nemeth omission symbol is punctuated mathematically. Related punctuation is unspaced from the omission symbol.

➤  $2 \times \dots$ ,      ⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤

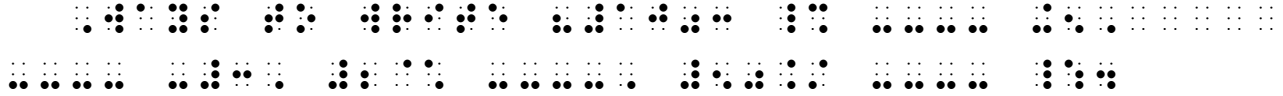
➤  $2 \times \_.$       ⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤⠠⠨⠤



Take another look at this example from Lesson 1. Notice the use of the mathematical comma with the long dash.

Example 2-11

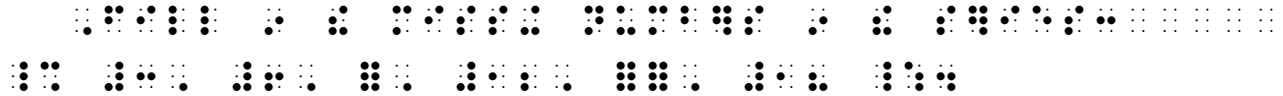
Ways to write "10": \_\_\_ + 5, \_\_\_ - 3, 2 × \_\_\_, 50 ÷ \_\_\_.



*Reminder: A space is inserted between a long dash and an operation symbol. Note that, on line 2, the omission symbol (long dash) is placed on the same line as the rest of its math expression even though there is room for the long dash on the first line.*

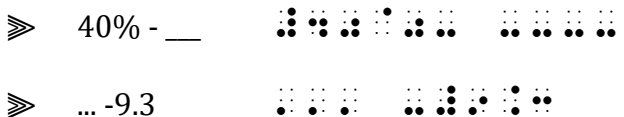
Example 2-12

Fill in the missing numbers in the series: 3, 6, ?, 12, ??, 18.



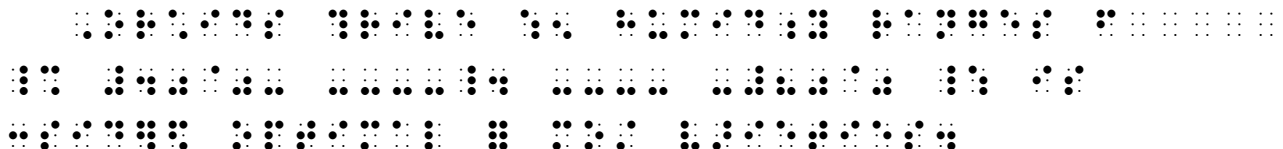
*Switch Decision: These question marks represent omissions and so the Nemeth general omission symbol is required. (Revisit Section 1.11 in Lesson 1.) In order to avoid excessive code switching, the entire series is transcribed in Nemeth even though the numerals themselves could be transcribed in either code. Reminders: The general omission symbol is spaced according to rules of the item it represents (in this case, a numeral). The same number of omission symbols shown in print is used in braille.*

**2.6.1 Spacing Exception—The Hyphen.** Although no space is left between an ellipsis and a related punctuation mark or between a long dash and a related punctuation mark, if the punctuation mark is a hyphen then a space is required.



Example 2-13

Orchids thrive when humidity ranges from 40% - \_\_\_. \_\_\_ -80% is considered optimal for most varieties.



*A space is inserted between each hyphen and long dash.*



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*Instructions:* Here is a list of isolated mathematical items and punctuation marks. Transcribe an opening Nemeth Code indicator in cell 1. Start the list on the next line. Begin each line in cell 1, with any runovers in cell 3. Remain in Nemeth throughout the practice, including the clock time. Place the Nemeth Code terminator on the same line as the last item in the list.

### PRACTICE 2B

+, −; ×, ÷.

+’s, −’s, ×’s, ÷’s; =s, >s, <s.

" :: "

5.1, 6.22, 7.333; \$8.44, \$9.55; \$10.66.

10:45-11:25

−16 > −\_\_ ; 16 < \_\_ .

\$1,400 < £ ?

5'3" ..., 6'1"—6'2" ..., 7'0".

"8 · 3 = 3 · 8"

## 2.8 Summary of the Use and Nonuse of the Punctuation Indicator

2.8.1 **Situations That Do Not Require a Punctuation Indicator.** A punctuation indicator is not required before any of the following punctuation marks. In these isolated samples, assume that the technical material continues after what is shown.

a. The mathematical comma never requires a punctuation indicator.

➤ 5.0, ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

b. A punctuation indicator is not used before a hyphen or a dash.

➤ 5.5-7.0 ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

➤ \$47,689—2.6% ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

c. A punctuation indicator is not needed if the first character following a space is a punctuation mark or if the punctuation mark begins on a new line.

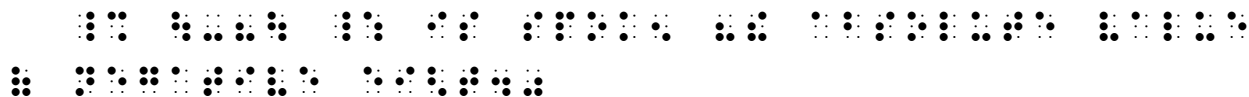
➤ "+", "-" ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠





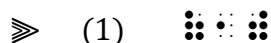
*Example 2-17*

$|-8|$  is spoken "the absolute value of negative eight."



*The numeral -8 is preceded by a grouping symbol; no numeric indicator is needed.*

2.10.1 **Identifiers.** Nemeth parentheses are used for the parentheses associated with an identifier that is transcribed inside the code switches.



Lacking a left grouping sign, the numeric indicator is required when the numeral is preceded by a space or begins a braille line.

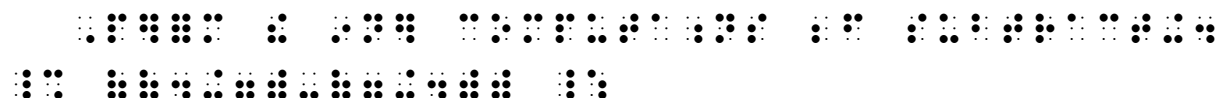


## 2.11 Nested Grouping Symbols

When two or more grouping signs follow one another the outer set may be printed using a taller size in order to visually distinguish the nested groupings. The braille transcription does not differentiate between the sizes—regular grouping symbols are transcribed.

*Example 2-18*

Perform the inner computations before subtracting.  $((4 + 7) - (7 + 4))$

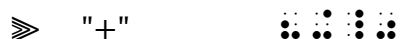


*In print, the first and last parentheses are taller than the others.*

### *Code-Switching Considerations*

## 2.12 Enclosed Technical Material

When parentheses, brackets, braces, or quotation marks enclose a Nemeth symbol or expression, the paired punctuation is transcribed inside the code switches.



Example 2-19

"+" means *plus*, "-" means *minus*, and "=" means *equals*.

*A punctuation indicator must be inserted before each closing quotation mark.*

- a. Recall that many UEB punctuation symbols can be used inside of the code switches (a period, a semicolon, a colon, to name a few). UEB parentheses, brackets, and braces do not fall into this category. Inside the switches, Nemeth grouping symbols are transcribed even when the sign has no mathematical meaning.

Example 2-20

Multiplication can be printed as a dot (·) or as a cross (×).

*Nemeth parentheses are used inside the switches even when they do not function as mathematical symbols.*

- 2.12.1 **Punctuation Following a Sign of Grouping.** Nemeth grouping symbols are punctuated mathematically. A mathematical comma (dot 6) is used; a punctuation indicator is required before other punctuation marks except the hyphen and the dash.

Example 2-21

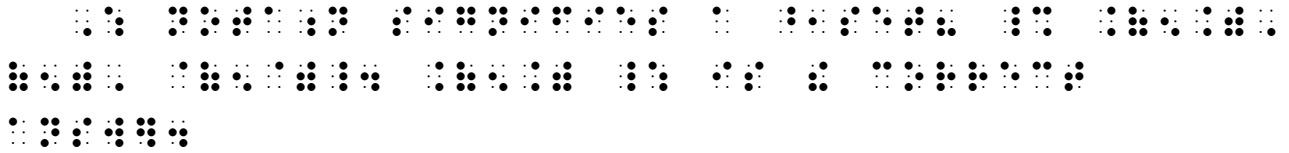
Multiplication can be printed as a dot (·) or as a cross (×).  $12 \cdot 3$  is just another way to write  $12 \times 3$ .

1   
2   
3   
4

*Line 2: A punctuation indicator must be inserted before the first period because Nemeth is not terminated between the first and second sentence.*

Example 2-22

Which notation signifies a **set**? {5}, (5), [5]. {5} is the correct answer.



*The mathematical comma (dot 6) is used following the first two grouping symbols. A punctuation indicator must be inserted before the first period because Nemeth is not terminated between the first and second sentence.*

**2.13 Paired Parentheses and Brackets**

Paired grouping symbols must be transcribed in the same code. When parentheses or brackets are functioning as punctuation enclosing Nemeth material the Nemeth symbols are used. However, when paired parentheses or brackets enclose a phrase which begins or ends in UEB the punctuation is transcribed in UEB in order to match. Look carefully at the placement of code switch indicators in [Examples 2-23](#) and [2-24](#).

Example 2-23

(\$1.01 is the correct answer.)



*To transcribe both opening and closing parentheses in UEB, the opening Nemeth Code indicator is placed just inside the opening UEB parenthesis.*

Example 2-24

[The answer is 99¢]



*To transcribe both opening and closing brackets in UEB, the Nemeth Code terminator is placed just inside the closing UEB square bracket.*







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*Instructions:* Format each line or sentence in print as a 3-1 paragraph in braille.

### PRACTICE 2C

Is  $3(-2.5) + (-4)$  the same as  $3(-2.5 + (-4))$  ?

Use a number line to illustrate this addition problem:  $[-4 - (-1)] + [-1 - (-3)]$ .

$$7 + (-3) + (-4) = ?$$

$$8 + |(-2) + (-3)| = ?$$

$$|2(-7.5)| + 3.2(2) = ?$$

The **multiplicative identify** [*sic*] property is illustrated:  $(83)(1) = 83$ .

A **unit set** is a set containing only one element. For example,  $\{9\}$  is a unit set containing the element "9".

What is the meaning of the symbol "||" in "The answer is ||3.1||"?

A finite decimal (such as 0.152) is one that stops, whereas an infinite decimal (such as 0.9999...) repeats indefinitely.

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## 2.17 Code Switching with Unitemized Listed Nemeth Items

This topic is not addressed in the Nemeth Code. In the lesson exercises, please follow these guidelines when switching codes before or after a list of unitemized Nemeth items.

- 2.17.1 **A List of Nemeth Items in One Column.** Place the opening Nemeth Code indicator in cell 1 on a line by itself. Begin the list on the next line. Place the Nemeth Code terminator following the last Nemeth item, at the end of that line if room allows. If there is not room on the line, place the closing switch in the runover position. This layout was demonstrated in Practice 2B.
- 2.17.2 **A Multi-Column List of Nemeth Items.** Place the opening Nemeth Code indicator in cell 1 on a line by itself. Begin the list on the next line. Place the Nemeth Code terminator on the line following the multi-column list, in cell 1. This layout was demonstrated in Exercise 1.
- 2.17.3 **A Bulleted List.** The bullet symbols can be transcribed in either code. There is no need to switch out of Nemeth in order to transcribe a bullet.

*Example 2-40*

- $1 + 6 = 7$
- $2 + 5 = 7$
- $3 + 4 = 7$

1    ⠠⠠

2    ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠

3    ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠

4    ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠

- 2.17.4 **A List with a Heading.** Code switching after a heading will be discussed in Lesson 4.





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