

## Exercises 1

1. Show with Venn diagrams:

(a)  $A \cap (B \cup C) = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$

(b)  $(A \cap B)^c = A^c \cup B^c$

2. (a) How many subsets with exactly 3 elements does a set with 5 elements have?

(b) Let  $B(n, k)$  = number of  $k$ -element subsets of a set with  $n$  elements.

Show that  $B(n, k) = B(n-1, k) + B(n-1, k-1)$  if  $n \geq 1$  and  $0 < k \leq n$ .

(c) From (b), deduce the list of numbers  $B(n, k)$  for  $n = 0, 1, \dots, 6$  and  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$ .  
In which other mathematical context do they appear?

3. Find a formula for  $|A \cup B \cup C|$ .

4. What is the number of words of length  $n$  over an alphabet with  $k$  elements?

List them systematically for the case  $k = 2$ ,  $n = 4$ .