

The ASSOCIATIVE PROPERTY

↳ EXAMPLE 1:

$$7 + 8 + 3 + 2$$

NOTE: EVERY term is being ADDED

The ASSOCIATIVE PROPERTY for addition says that $(1+2)+3 = 1+(2+3)$.

In other words, if every term is being added, you can ADD in ANY ORDER.

What numbers (in example 1) are "calling" to each other?

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 7 & + & 8 & + & 3 & + & 2 & = & \underline{\quad} & + & \underline{\quad} \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & & & \\ \hline & & & & & & & = & \underline{\quad} & & \end{array}$$

↳ EXAMPLE 2:

$$15 + 17 + 3 + 5$$

$$= \underline{\quad} + \underline{\quad}$$

$$= \underline{\quad}$$

EXAMPLE 3:

$$3 \cdot 10 \cdot 7$$

NOTE: EVERY term is being MULTIPLIED

The ASSOCIATIVE PROPERTY FOR MULTIPLICATION says that $(1 \cdot 2) \cdot 3 = 1 \cdot (2 \cdot 3)$

In other words, if every term is being multiplied, you can MULTIPLY IN ANY ORDER.

↳ SO, $3 \cdot 10 \cdot 7 = \underline{\quad} \cdot \underline{\quad} \cdot \underline{\quad}$
 $= \underline{\quad} \cdot \underline{\quad}$
 $= \underline{\quad}$

NOW TRY THESE:

a) $12 + 7 + 8 + 3$

b) $16 + 5 + 15 + 4$

c) $13 \cdot 10 \cdot 3$

d) $8 \cdot 10 \cdot 7$

The associative Property Practice Problems

1. $3 + 6 + 4 + 7$

2. $9 + 4 + 1 + 6$

3. $18 + 12 + 2 + 8$

4. $12 \cdot 10 \cdot 2$

5. $12 \cdot 20 \cdot 3$

6. $9 \cdot 10 \cdot 6$