

Note for the teacher: part of the assignment here is for the student to format this page (as a computer literacy exercise).

#### Possibility Summary Page

The Multiplication Rule (The Wardrobe Problem).

If there are  $X$  ways to choose one thing, and  $Y$  ways to choose another thing, then there are  $X \cdot Y$  ways to choose these two things together. (This assumes that these two things are independent.)

Factorials (The Seating Chart Problem).

The number of ways of rearranging  $n$  objects is  $n!$

For example,  $5! = 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 120$ .

Permutations (The Prize Problem).

The number of ways to select  $r$  out of  $n$  objects, in order, is  $nPr$ .

For example,  $9P4 = 9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6 = 3024$ .

Combinations (The Committee Problem).

The number of ways to select  $r$  out of  $n$  objects, without regard to order, is  $nCr$ .

For example,  $9C4 = \frac{9P4}{4!} = \frac{9 \cdot 8 \cdot 7 \cdot 6}{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} = 126$ .

Distinguishable Arrangements (Word Scrambling).

If there are a total of  $N$  objects, of which  $A$  objects are indistinguishable from one another, and another  $B$  objects are indistinguishable from one another, etc., then the number of possible arrangements is:  $\frac{N!}{A!B!C! \dots}$