

1. Penelope wants to know the value of $\frac{2^6}{23}$, so she types

```
2^6 / 23
```

and presses **Enter**, but nothing happens. What does she need to do to get *Mathematica* to evaluate the expression she has typed in?

Now Penelope wants to know the value of $\frac{2^6 + 5^{1/2}}{23}$, so she types

```
2^6 + 5^(1/2) / 23
```

What is wrong with this?

2. George wants to find some values of the sine function using *Mathematica*. But he keeps making syntactical errors. Help him out by correcting his mistakes.

```
Sin(0)
```

```
sin[0]
```

```
Sin[pi]
```

In general, predefined functions (like sine) and predefined constants (like π) should start with what kind of letter?

And to evaluate a function at a specific point (i.e. plug in a number), what kind of parentheses/braces/brackets should be used?

3. Sally wants to find a graph of $x^2 - 4$ on the domain $[-10, 10]$. Which of the following will work?

`Plot[x^2 - 4, [-10,10]]`

`Plot[x^2 - 4, {x,-10,10}]`

`Plot[x^2 - 4, -10 < x < 10]`

She also wants a scatter plot of the points $(-1, 2)$, $(0, 3)$, $(1, 5)$, $(2, 9)$. Based on what you know about *Mathematica* syntax, which of the following commands do you think might work?

`ListPlot[(-1, 2), (0, 3), (1, 5), (2, 9)]`

`ListPlot[{{-1, 2}, {0, 3}, {1, 5}, {2, 9}}]`

`ListPlot[{-1, 2), (0, 3), (1, 5), (2, 9)}]`

In general, what kind of parenthesis/braces/brackets are used for lists and ranges in *Mathematica*?

Some other tricks:

- Pressing **Command+L** on a mac or **Control+L** on a PC is like **2nd Enter** on a graphing calculator, i.e. it will bring up the last command you entered.
- If you want a decimal approximation instead of an exact answer, use the **N** command. For example, if you entered

`2^6 + 5^(1/2) / 23`

you would get something like

`Out[1] = 64 + $\frac{\sqrt{5}}{23}$`

If you then entered

`N[2^6 + 5^(1/2) / 23]`

you would get something like

`Out[2] = 64.0972`

- If you want to use an output from a previous computation, you can use the **Out** command. For example, suppose you wanted to take the output 64.0972 from the previous example and divide it by 11. You could just enter:

`Out[2]/11`