

1. Calculate the following

(a)  $P(5, 3)$  (3pt)

(b)  $\binom{5}{3}$ . (3pt)

**Solution:**

(a)  $P(5, 3) = 5 \times 4 \times 3 = 60$

Or you can do

$$P(5, 3) = \frac{5!}{(5-3)!} = \frac{5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1}{2 \times 1} = 60;$$

(b)  $\binom{5}{3} = \frac{5 \times 4 \times 3}{3 \times 2 \times 1} = \frac{60}{6} = 10.$

Or

$$\binom{5}{3} = \frac{5!}{(5-3)!3!} = \frac{5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1}{(2 \times 1) \times (3 \times 2 \times 1)} = 10.$$

2. A box contain 5 red balls, 3 green balls and 1 black ball. 2 balls are drawn randomly without replacement.

(a) Find the probability that 1 red and 1 green ball are drawn.(2pts)

(b) Find the probability that none of these two balls is black.(2pts) (Hint: use complement rule, find the probability that one of them is black first.)

**Solution:** The total possible ways to select 2 balls from the box is

$$\binom{9}{2} = \frac{9 \times 8}{2 \times 1} = 36.$$

(a) By multiplication principle, the total number of possible ways to select 1 red ball and 1 green ball is  $5 \times 3 = 15$ . Therefore,

$$P(1 \text{ red and } 1 \text{ green}) = \frac{15}{36} = \frac{5}{12}.$$

(b) Notice the total number of possible ways to select 1 black ball and 1 OTHER ball is  $1 \times 8 = 8$ . Thus,

$$P(1 \text{ black and } 1 \text{ other}) = \frac{8}{36} = \frac{2}{9}.$$

Therefore,

$$P(\text{NO black ball}) = 1 - \frac{2}{9} = \frac{7}{9}.$$

NOTE: you can also solve this problem by tree diagram.