Guide to: BIDMAS

maths Links

Explanation:

BIDMAS gives the strict order of operations in mathematics: **B**rackets first, then **I**ndices (powers and roots), then **D**ivision and **M**ultiplication, and finally **A**ddition and **S**ubtraction.

Division and Multiplication have equal priority (work from **left to right**). Similarly, Addition and Subtraction have equal priority (work from **left to right** — do not automatically add before subtracting if subtraction comes first on the left).

Example 1: Work out $18 - 3 \times 4 + 2^2$

Solution:

1. Indices: $2^2 = 4 \rightarrow 18 - 3 \times 4 + 4$
2. Multiply: $3 \times 4 = 12 \rightarrow 18 - 12 + 4$
3. Add/Subtract (left to right):
• $18 - 12 = 6$, then $6 + 4 = 10$

Answer: 10

Example 2: Work out $36 \div (11 - 2) + 5 \times 3^2$

Solution:

1. Brackets: $(11 - 2) = 9 \rightarrow 36 \div 9 + 5 \times 3^2$
2. Indices: $3^2 = 9 \rightarrow 36 \div 9 + 5 \times 9$
3. Divide & Multiply: $36 \div 9 = 4$ and $5 \times 9 = 45$
4. Add: $4 + 45 = 49$

Answer: 49

Worksheets and other links					
Video Lesson on this topic	Video		**Maths Made Easy**	Qs	Ans
Ken Stafford (Past Paper Qs)	Qs	Ans	**Maths4Everyone**	Qs	Ans
Maths Genie	Qs	Ans	**Maths Takeaway**	Qs	Ans
Corbettmaths (Practice)	Qs	Ans	**E Classroom**	Qs	Ans
Corbettmaths (Textbook)	Qs	Ans	**PMT (Edexcel)**	Qs	Ans
Dr Austin Maths	Qs	Ans	**PMT (AQA)**	Qs	Ans

Questions by topic

Past Papers

Maths worksheets

Buy workbook

Quizzes

More resources like this

ken@mathslinks.co.uk