

Factorial ($!$ or L)

$$n! \text{ or } L_n = n(n-1)(n-2) \dots 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1$$

$$L_1 = 1 \quad L_2 = 2 \times 1 = 2 \quad L_3 = 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 6$$

$$L_4 = 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 24 \quad L_5 = 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 120$$
$$= 5 \times 4! =$$
$$= 5 \times 24 = 120$$

$$L_6 = 6 \times 5! = 6 \times 120 = 720$$

$$L_7 = 7 \times 6! = 7 \times 720 = 5040$$

$$L_8 = 8 \times 7! = 8 \times 5040 = 40320$$

$$L_0 = 1$$

EXERCISE 7.2

1. Evaluate
(i) $8!$

(ii) $4! - 3!$

(1) (i) $8! = 8 \times 7 \times 6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1$
 $= 40320$

(ii) $4! - 3!$
 $= 24 - 6 = 18$

2. Is $3! + 4! = 7!$? 3. Compute $\frac{8!}{6! \times 2!}$ 4. If $\frac{1}{6!} + \frac{1}{7!} = \frac{x}{8!}$, find x

5. Evaluate $\frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$, when
 (i) $n=6, r=2$ (ii) $n=9, r=5$

0=2 Is $3! + 4! = 7!$?

LHS = $6 + 24 = 30$

RHS = $7! = 5040$

LHS \neq RHS

\therefore No

0=3 $\frac{8!}{6! \times 2!}$
 $= \frac{8 \times 7 \times \cancel{6!}}{\cancel{6!} \times 2}$
 $= 28$

0=4 $\frac{1}{6!} + \frac{1}{7!} = \frac{x}{8!}$ find x
 $1 \cdot 1 = x$

0=5 $\frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$
 (i) $n=6, r=2$

$$\frac{1}{6!} + \frac{1}{7 \times 6!} = \frac{x}{8 \times 7 \times 6!}$$

$$\frac{1}{\cancel{6!}} \left[\frac{1}{\cancel{1}} + \frac{1}{7} \right] = \frac{x}{56 \times \cancel{6!}}$$

$$\frac{7+1}{7} = \frac{x}{56}$$

$$\frac{8}{7} = \frac{x}{56}$$

$$x = \frac{8 \times 56}{7} = 64$$

$$(i) \quad n=6 \quad r=2$$

$$= \frac{6!}{(6-2)!} = \frac{6!}{4!}$$

$$= \frac{6 \times 5 \times 4!}{4!}$$

$$= 30$$