

# Symbols!

## The Greek Alphabet

Upper case	Lower case	Name	English equivalent
A	$\alpha$	alpha	a
B	$\beta$	beta	b
$\Gamma$	$\gamma$	gamma	g
$\Delta$	$\delta$	delta	d
E	$\epsilon, \varepsilon$	epsilon	e
Z	$\zeta$	zeta	z
H	$\eta$	eta	ee
$\Theta$	$\theta, \vartheta$	theta	th
I	$\iota$	iota	i
K	$\kappa$	kappa	k
$\Lambda$	$\lambda$	lambda	l
M	$\mu$	mu	m
N	$\nu$	nu	n
$\Xi$	$\xi$	xi	x
O	$o$	omicron	o
$\Pi$	$\pi$	pi	p
P	$\rho$	rho	r
$\Sigma$	$\sigma, \varsigma$	sigma	s
T	$\tau$	tau	t
$\Upsilon$	$\upsilon$	upsilon	u (or y)
$\Phi$	$\phi, \varphi$	phi	ph
X	$\chi$	chi	ch (as in 'loch')
$\Psi$	$\psi$	psi	ps
$\Omega$	$\omega$	omega	(long) o

## Some logic symbols

Symbol	Meaning	Usage
$\neg, \sim$	not	$\neg P$ : it isn't the case that $P$
$\wedge, \&$	and	$(P \wedge Q)$ : $P$ and $Q$
$\vee$	(inclusive) or	$(P \vee Q)$ : $P$ or $Q$ or both
$\rightarrow$	if	$(P \rightarrow Q)$ : if $P$ then $Q$
$\supset$	if	$(P \supset Q)$ : if $P$ then $Q$
$\leftrightarrow, \equiv$	'material conditional' if and only if	where this is (contentiously) equated to $(\neg P \vee Q)$ $(P \leftrightarrow Q)$ : $P$ if and only if $Q$ 'if and only if' is often abbreviated 'iff'
$P, Q, R, \dots$	propositions	stand in for whole assertions
$a, b, c, \dots$	names	standing in e.g. for 'Juliet', 'Romeo', 'Mercutio' etc. NB use lower case letters not too late in alphabet as names
$F, G, L, \dots$	predicates	standing in e.g. for 'is a girl', 'is tall', 'loves' etc. NB use upper case letters in middle of alphabet as predicates
$Fa, Gb, Lab$	simple sentences	So ' $Fa$ ' might mean that Juliet is a girl, ' $Gb$ ' that Romeo is tall, ' $Lab$ ' that Juliet loves Romeo. NB predicate comes first!
$x, y, z, \dots$	variables	used for expressing generalizations, as in ...
$\forall$	for all	$\forall xFx$ : every thing $x$ is such that $x$ is $F$
$\exists$	there is / some	$\exists xFx$ : there is a thing $x$ such that $x$ is $F$ or : something is such that it is $F$
$=$	is identical to	$\alpha = \beta$ : $\alpha$ is one and the same thing as $\beta$
$\neq$	is not identical to	$\alpha \neq \beta$ : $\alpha$ is a different thing from $\beta$
$\square$	necessarily	$\square P$ : it is necessarily true that $P$
$\diamond$	possibly	$\diamond P$ : it is possibly true that $P$
$\square \rightarrow$	(subjunctive) if	$(P \square \rightarrow Q)$ : if $P$ were the case, $Q$ would be true too
$\vdash$	proves	$A, B \vdash C$ : there's a proof from premisses $A, B$ to conclusion $C$
$\vDash$	logically entails	$A, B \vDash C$ : the premisses $A, B$ logically entail conclusion $C$ (contrast proof in some formal system vs entailment)
$\nvdash$	doesn't prove	$A, B \nvdash C$ : there's no proof from premisses $A, B$ to conclusion $C$
$\n\vDash$	doesn't entail	$A, B \n\vDash C$ : the premisses $A, B$ don't entail conclusion $C$
$\in$	is member of	$\alpha \in \Gamma$ : $\alpha$ is a member of the set $\Gamma$
$\notin$	isn't member of	$\alpha \notin \Gamma$ : $\alpha$ is not a member of the set $\Gamma$
$\subseteq$	is a subset of	$\Delta \subseteq \Gamma$ : $\Delta$ is a subset of $\Gamma$ i.e. every member of $\Delta$ is a member of $\Gamma$
$\subset$	is a (proper) subset of	$\Delta \subset \Gamma$ : $\Delta$ is subset of $\Gamma$ , and $\Delta \neq \Gamma$ (sometimes $\subset$ is used just like $\subseteq$ )
$\{\dots\}$	set	$\{2, 3, 5\}$ : the set whose members are 2, 3, 5
$\{\dots \mid \dots\}$	set	$\{x \mid x \text{ is even}\}$ : the set of $x$ that $x$ is even
$\langle , \rangle$	ordered pair	$\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle$ : the ordered pair whose first member is $\alpha$ and whose second member is $\beta$