

It is important to understand the difference between independent and dependent events

Independent Events

Note: The explanation below will all make sense once you try the example in the middle of this page, so don't worry if it doesn't make sense at first! You can skip straight to the example if you prefer!

Independent events are when the probability of one event DOES NOT affect the probability of another event. For example, winning a tennis match doesn't depend on winning a golf match. In other words, the outcome of a golf match won't affect the outcome of a tennis match and vice versa. Whether you win or lose the first match which is golf, doesn't affect whether you will win or lose the next match which is the tennis match (unless you're being picky and take the mental side such as confidence from winning the first match into it etc, but of course we don't do this for the purposes of GCSE maths O)



The 2^{nd} event **DOES NOT** depend on the 1^{st} event i.e. the 1^{st} event does not affect the probability of the 2^{nd} event.

Important to take away from this:

In both second branches the probabilities will be the same for each pair (both pairs have y and 1 - y). This is because the events are <u>independent</u>, so the second event does not change based on what occurred in the first place (the first event).

Example:

There are 5 red pens and 2 blue pens in a pack. Julia takes at random a pen from the pack notes the colour and **puts it back** in the pack.

- Work out the probability she selects a red pen first and then a blue pen next
 - Work out the probability she selects two pens the same colour.
- iii. Work out the probability she selects two pens of different colour

Answer:

ii.

We must draw the tree diagram here.



Dependent Events Note: The explanation below will all make sense once you try the example in the middle of this page, so don't worry if it doesn't make sense at first! You can skip straight to the example if you prefer!

Dependent events are when the probability of one event DOES affect the probability of another event. For example, being late depends on whether travelled by car or bike. The mode of transport will affect how quickly once arrives hence the events are dependent. Notice the word given in the second branches now.



The 2^{nd} events **DOES** depend on the 1^{st} event i.e. the 1^{st} event affects the probability of the 2^{nd} event.

Important to take away from this:

In both second branches the probabilities will NOT be the same for each pair (one pair has y and 1 - y and the other is equal to z and 1 - z. This is because the events are <u>dependent</u>, so the second event CHANGES based on what occurred in the first place (the first event). The difference in colours (purple versus green) has been used to indicate that tey are different.

Example

There are 5 red pens and 2 blue pens in a pack. Julia takes at random a pen from the pack notes the colour and **DOES NOT put it back** in the pack.

- Work out the probability she selects a red pen first and then a blue pen next
- i. Work out the probability she selects two pens the same colour.
- ii. Work out the probability she selects two pens of different colour

Answer:

i.

Watch out this time! This question is **harder** since the pen is **not replaced**. We will have to think about the numbers in the numerator and denominator for the second events which is explained below on the right



Examples To Try (Independent Events)

Level 1: Bronze

1)Salika travels to school by train every day. The probability that her train will be late on Monday is 0.3 and the probability that he train will be late on Tuesday is 0.1.



- i. Complete the probability tree diagram for Monday and Tuesday
- ii. Work out the probability her train will be not be late on Monday, but be late on Tuesday
- iii. Work out the probability her train will be late on **one day only**
- iv. Work out the probability her train will be late on **at least one** of these two days

Level 2: Silver (to draw out) 🤍

2)Haseeb is going to play a tennis match and a squash match.

The probability he wins the tennis match is $\frac{7}{10}$

The probability he wins the squash match is $\frac{3}{5}$

Calculate the probability that Haseeb will lose both matches

3)Jo walks to school every day. The probability Jo is late on a Monday is 0.4. The probability Jo is late on a Tuesday is 0.2. Work out the probability that Jo is late on only one of the days.

4) In a supermarket, the probability that John buys fruit is 0.7. In the same supermarket, the probability that John independently buys vegetables is 0.4. Work out the probability that John buys fruit or buys vegetables or buys both.

5)There are only

4 mint biscuits and 1 toffee biscuit in a tin There are only

5 mint sweets and 3 strawberry sweets in a packet Michael's mum lets him take one biscuit from the tin and one sweet from the packet

Michael takes a biscuit at random from the tin

He also takes a sweet at random from the packet

Work out the probability that either the biscuit is mint or the sweet is mint, but not both

Level 3: Gold

6)A bag contains 3 black beads, 5 red beads and 2 green beads. Gianna takes a bead at random from the bag, records its colour and **replaces it**. She does this **two more** times. Work out the probability that, of the three beads Gianna takes, exactly two are the same colour.

Level 4: Diamond 🤎

7)Two golfers, Smith and Jones, are attempting to qualify for a golf championship. It is estimated that the probability of Jones qualifying is 0.8, and that probability of both Smith and Jones qualifying is 0.6. Given that the probability of Smith qualifying and the probability of Jones qualifying are independent, find the probability that only one of them qualify?

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Examples To Try (Dependent Events)

Level 1: Bronze 🧧

1)Adam travels to school by car (c) or by bicycle (B). On any particular day he is equally likely to travel by car or by bicycle. The probability of being late (L) for school is $\frac{1}{6}$ if he travels by car and $\frac{1}{3}$ if he travels by bicycle

i

Find the probability that Adam will travel by car and be late for school Find the probability that Adam will be late for school

Level 2: Silver (to draw out)

2)In a factory, three machines, J,K and L, are used to make biscuits.

Machine J makes 25% of the biscuits. Machine K makes 45% of the biscuits. The rest of the biscuits are made by machine L $\,$

It is known that 2% of the biscuits made my machine J are broken, 3% of the biscuits made by machine K are broken and 5% of the biscuits made my machine L are broken. A biscuit is selected at random.

- Calculate the probability that the biscuit is made by machine J and is not broken
- . Calculate the probability that the biscuit is broken

3)Carolyn has 20 biscuits in a tin. She has

12 plain biscuits, 5 chocolate biscuits and 3 ginger biscuits.

Carolyn takes at random two biscuits from the tin. Work out the probability that the two biscuits were not the same type

Level 3: Gold 🤘

4)There are 9 counters in a bag. There is an even number on 3 of the counters. There is an odd number on 6 of the counters. Three counters are going to be taken at random from the bag. The numbers on the counters will be added together to give the total. Find the probability that the total is an odd number

With algebra:

5)There are y black socks and 5 white socks in a drawer. Joshua takes at random two socks from the drawer. The probability that Joshua takes one white sock and one black sock is $\frac{6}{11}$

- i. Show that $3y^2 28y + 60 = 0$
- ii. Find the probability that Joshua takes two black socks

6)There are only green pens and blue pens in a box. There are three more blue pens than green pens in the box. There are more than 12 pens in the box. Simon is going to take at random two pens from the box. The probability that Simon will take two pens of the same colour is $\frac{27}{55}$. Work out the number of green pens in the box.

With algebra and ratio:

7)John has an empty box. He puts some red counters and some blue counters into the box. The ratio of the number of red counters to the number of blue counters is 1:4. Linda takes at random 2 counters from the box. The probability that she takes 2 red counters is $\frac{6}{155}$. How many red counters did John but into the box?

With missing second branches that need to be worked out:

8)A factory buys 10% of its components from supplier A, 30% from supplier B and the rest from supplier C. It is known that 6 % of the components it buys are faulty.

Of the components bought from supplier A, 9% are faulty and of the components bought from supplier B, 3% are faulty. Find the percentage of components bought from supplier C that are faulty

9)Officials at college are interested in the relationship between participation in interscholastic sports and graduation rate. The following information summarises the probability of several events when a male student is randomly selected.

P(student participates in sports)=0.20

P(student participates in sports and graduates)=0.18

- P(student graduates given no participation in sports)=0.80
 - i. What is the probability that a randomly selected student who participates in sport, graduated?
 - ii. What is the probability that a randomly selected student graduated?
 - iii. What is the probability that a randomly selected student participated in sports, given that they graduated?

Level 4: Diamond 🥥

Ongoing events:

10)Mr Jones has 3 tins of beans and 2 tins of pears. His daughter has removed the labels for a school project, and the tins are identical in appearance. Mr Jones opens tins in turn until he has opened at least 1 tin of beans and at least 1 tin of pears. He does not open any remaining tins

- i. Draw a tree diagram to illustrate this situation, labelling each branch with its associated
- ii. Find the probability that Mr Jones opens exactly 3 tins
- iii. It is given that the last tin Mr Jones opens is a tin of pears. Find the probability that he opens

With algebra:

11)There are only red counters, yellow counters and blue counters in a bag. Liam takes at random a counter from the bag. He puts the counter back in the bag. Lethna takes at random a counter from the bag. She puts the counter back in the bag. The probability that both counters are red or that both counters are yellow is $\frac{13}{36}$. The probability that the first counter is red and the second counter is not red is $\frac{1}{4}$. Seb takes at random a counter from the bag. Work out the probability that Seb takes a yellow counter.

12)I have a bag containing some red counters and some blue counters. I draw one counter, and then draw another, having first replaced the first counter. The probability that I draw two red counters is $\frac{1}{3}$. I have another go, except this time, I do not replace the first counter before

drawing the second. The probability that I draw two red counters is $\frac{1}{10}$. Let r be the number of red counters and n be the total number of counters. Find r and n

Answers To Questions In The Left Column:



2)

Let P(T) = probability Haseeb wins tennis

Let P(T') = probability Haseeb does <u>not</u> win tennis

Let P(S) = probability Haseeb wins squash

Let P(S') = probability Haseeb does <u>not</u> win squash

Let's draw a tree diagram. We use the fact that colour pair below adds to one to help us fill in the tree diagram



1)







Remember:

- when we go \rightarrow we multiply (one event after the other)
- when we go \downarrow we add (between option)

Instead of working out all of them, we can just do the probability that he does not buy any fruit, and subtract it from 1.

P(V' and F') =
$$\frac{6}{10} \times \frac{3}{10} = \frac{18}{100} = \frac{9}{50}$$

Now subtracting from one

$$1 - \frac{9}{50} = \frac{41}{50}$$







Answers To Questions In The Right Column:













Black = yWhite = 5

Let P(W) = probability of getting white sock Let P(B) = probability of getting a black sock

Let's draw a tree diagram. We use the fact that colour pair below adds to one to help us fill in the tree diagram



Notice how the second branches are dependent on what happened before and hence the numbers are one less once we have chosen

Remember:

- when we go \rightarrow we multiply (one event after the other)
- when we go↓we add (between option)

 $P(W \text{ and } B) + P(B \text{ and } W) = \frac{6}{11}$

Subbing in and equating:

$$\left(\frac{y}{y+5} \times \frac{5}{y+4}\right) + \left(\frac{5}{y+5} \times \frac{y}{y+4}\right) = \frac{6}{11}$$

$$\frac{5y}{y^2+9y+20} + \frac{5y}{y^2+9y+20} = \frac{6}{11}$$

$$\frac{10y}{y^2+9y+20} = \frac{6}{11}$$

$$110y = 6y^2 + 54y + 120$$

$$0 = 6y^2 - 56y + 120$$

$$0 = 3y^2 - 28y + 60$$

$$y = 6, \frac{10}{3}$$
We know the can't have a fraction of a sock so y = 6
So now:

$$P(B \text{ and } B) = \frac{y}{y+5} \times \frac{y-1}{y+4} = \frac{y(y-1)}{(y+5)(y+4)}$$

$$= \frac{6(6-1)}{(6+5)(6+4)} = \frac{3}{11}$$

The easiest way to do this is with a tree diagram, but you can certainly do it without.

Call the number of green pens x since we don't know how many

green pens = xblue pens = x + 3total = 2x + 3

Let P(G) = probability of getting a green pen Let P(B) = probability of getting a blue pen



Remember:

- when we go \rightarrow we multiply (one event after the other)
- when we go \downarrow we add (between option)

P(G and G) + P(B and B) = $\frac{27}{55}$

 $\left(\frac{x}{2x+3} \times \frac{x-1}{2x+2}\right) + \left(\frac{x+3}{2x+3} \times \frac{x+2}{2x+2}\right) = \frac{27}{55}$ $\frac{x^2 - x}{(2x+3)(2x+2)} + \frac{x^2 + 5x + 6}{(2x+3)(2x+2)} = \frac{27}{55}$ $\frac{2x^2 + 4x + 6}{(2x+3)(2x+2)} = \frac{27}{55}$ $55(2x^2 + 4x + 6) = 27(2x+3)(2x+2)$ $110x^2 + 220x + 330 = 27(4x^2 + 10x + 6)$ $110x^2 + 220x + 330 = 108x^2 + 270x + 162$ $2x^2 - 50x + 168 = 0$ $x^2 - 25x + 84 = 0$ $x^2 - 25x + 84 = 0$ x = 21,4We know the total number must be more the 12:
green pens = x = 21

7)

We know the ratio of red to blue is 1:4 Note: The 1:4 does not mean 1 red and 4 blue counters This in algebra terms, the ratio of red to blue is *x*:4*x* Red=xBlue= 4xTotal = 5xR 5x<u>5</u>x R 4x - 15x - 1B The probability we get two red is $\frac{6}{155}$ $\left(\frac{x}{5x}\right)\left(\frac{x-1}{5x-1}\right) = \frac{6}{155}$ $\left(\frac{1}{5}\right)\left(\frac{x-1}{5x-1}\right) = \frac{6}{155}$ $\frac{x^2 - x}{25x^2 - 5x} = \frac{6}{155}$ $155x^2 - 155x = 150x^2 - 30x$

 $5x^2 - 125x = 0$ x = 25





10)



11)

Way 1:

First lets draw a tree diagram







So now subbing in the equation from tree one into tree two:

$$10r^{2} - 10r = (3r)^{2} - (3r)$$
$$10r^{2} - 10r = 9r^{2} - 3r$$
$$r = 7$$

Subbing into equation one: (n = 3r)

n = 21