Chapter- 3

Roman Numerals

STUDY NOTES

LEARN ABOUT:

- **INTRODUCTION OF ROMAN NUMERALS**
- **RULES FOR READING ROMAN NUMERALS**

❖ INTRODUCTION OF ROMAN NUMERALS-

The Roman numeral system is the most ancient and a popular form of writing numbers. It was developed by the Roman thousands of years ago.
In this system, **7** letters of the alphabet are used to represent the numbers. The 7 letters along with their corresponding numeric value are given in the table below.

LETTER	NUMERIC VALUE
I	1
V	5
X	10
L	50
C	100
D	500
M	1000

(Note: There is no letter to represent 'zero' in the Roman number system.)

Nowadays, Roman numbers are used to number the faces of clocks, to list important topics in outlines, etc.

All the numbers are written using either a single letter or a combination of different letters.

❖ RULES FOR READING ROMAN NUMERALS-

RULE-1

If a symbol is repeated more than one time, then we add its numeric value that many times.

EXAMPLES-

II = 1 + 1 = **2**

III = 1 + 1 + = **3**

XX = 10 + 10 = **20**

XXX = 10 + 10 + 10 = **30**

(Note: 1.Only letters I, X, C and M can be repeated. Letters V, L, and D are never repeated. 10 is not written as VV. To represent 10, we write X.

2. A symbol cannot be repeated more than 3 times in a row. For representing 3, III is acceptable. But for writing 4, we will not use IIII. Similarly, 40 cannot be written as XXXX.)

RULE-2

When a letter having smaller value is written to the right of letter having greater value, add the numeric value of the smaller letter to the numeric value of the greater letter.

EXAMPLES-

VI = V + 1 = 5 + 1 = **6**

XI = X + I = 10 + 1 = **11**

LI = L + I = 50 + 1 = **51**

CI = C + I = 100 + 1 = **101**

XV = X + V = 10 + 5 = **15**

XXV = X + X + V = 10 + 10 + 5 = **25**

XXXV = X + X + X + V = 10 + 10 + 10 + 5 = **35**

LX = L + X = 50 + 10 = **60**

LXV = L + X + V = 50 + 10 + 5 = **65**

RULE-3

When a letter having smaller value is written to the left of a letter having greater value, subtract the numeric value of the smaller letter from that of the greater letter.

EXAMPLES-

IV = 5 – 1 = **4**

IX = 10 – 1 = **9**

XL = 50 – 10 = **40**

❖ NUMBERS 1 TO 30

1 – I	**11 – XI**	**21 – XXI**
2 – II	**12 – XII**	**22 – XXII**
3 – III	**13 – XIII**	**23 – XXIII**
4 – IV	**14 – XIV**	**24 – XXIV**
5 – V	**15 – XV**	**25 – XXV**
6 – VI	**16 – XVI**	**26 – XXVI**
7 – VII	**17 – XVII**	**27 – XXVII**
8 – VIII	**18 – XVIII**	**28 – XXVIII**
9 – IX	**19 – XIX**	**29 – XXIX**
10 – X	**20 – XX**	**30 – XXX**

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