Math bracket types

( ) 1. Parentheses or round brackets, which are the most common in the simplest of math procedures – although they also have a place in more advanced equations.

The parentheses group 300 and 120 together, and 94 and 84. That changes the order in which the equation is solved. Whatever is inside the round brackets must be resolved first, overriding the multiplication's priority.

$$(300 + 120) \times (94 - 84) =$$

$$(420) \times (10) =$$

$$420 \times 10 = 4200$$

Without the parentheses, the result of this operation is different.

[ ] 2. Square or box brackets are the ones used in complex grouping. They're usually used along with the parentheses to isolate grouped operations and also to denote half open/closed intervals.

The square brackets group several operations together, and that also changes the solving order of the equation. Whatever is inside the square brackets must be resolved first. Since there are parentheses inside the square brackets, the operations inside them also have priority inside the square brackets.

$$[(300 + 120) \times 5] \times [5 + 6 + (1 \times 2)] =$$

$$[(420) \times 5] \times [5 + 6 + (2)] =$$

$$[2100] \times [13] =$$

$$2100 \times 13 = 27300$$

You must always pay attention to brackets in equations - they change the operation priority.

{ } 3. Braces or curly brackets are used to create sets and number lists.

Curly brackets are used to create sets this way:

{12,14,16,18, 20} -> this is the set of even numbers between 12 and 20