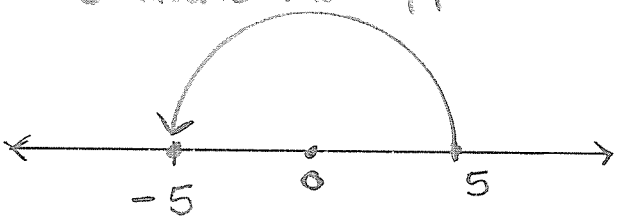
Signed numbers

: meaning of $-a$, $-(-a)$, etc.

: when we write $-a$, we mean the number that is a's opposite.

[EX 1]

-5 means the opposite of 5

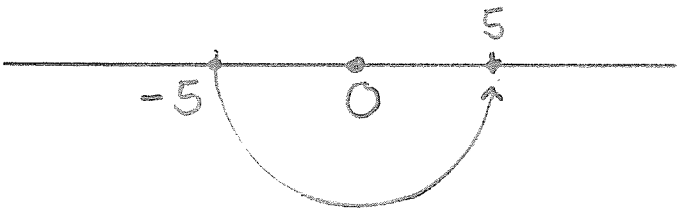


NOTE: $5 + (-5) = 0$ the sum of 5 and its opposite is ZERO.

You have heard "opposites attract." Well, in math they anhilate each other.

[EX 2]

$-(-5)$ means the opposite of -5.



NOTE

① $-5 + [-(-5)] = 0$

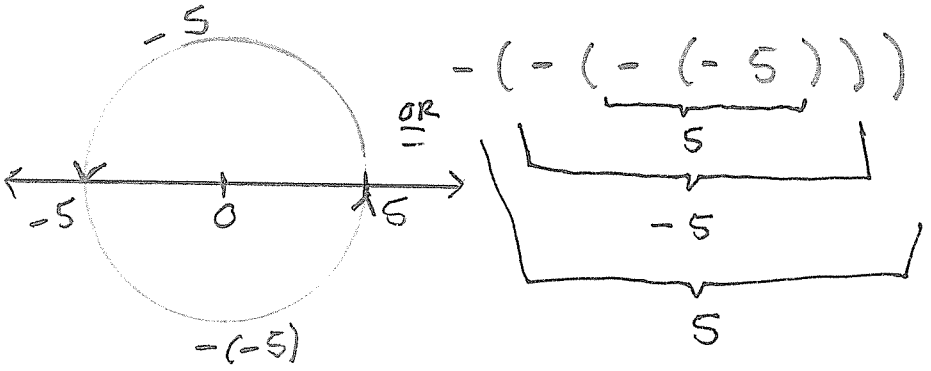
② $-5 + 5 = 0$

$\therefore$ $-(-5))$ is $+5$

$-(-5)$ is the opposite of -5, so -5 + opposite is ZERO

→

What do you think $-(-(-(-5)))$ is the opposite of ?



OR

$= -(-(-5))$

$= -(5)$

$= -5$

Rule : For any number a, $-a$ means the opposite of a. where two numbers are opposites if their Sum is zero.

Questions :

① $7 + (-7) =$