

**The Order of Operations Readers Theatre Script**  
**Developed by Ms. Lisa Morenzeni's Class with Dr. Rosalind M. Flynn**  
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|-----|--|-------|---|
| ALL | What does 5 plus 2 times 3 equal?  | 5     | (prop) I am an exponent. You evaluate all my powers next.   |
| 1   | [gesture] I got it! It's 11.   | 6     | (prop) I am multiplication.   |
| 2   | [gesture and sound effect] Wrong answer. It's 21.  | 7     | (prop) And I am division.   |
| ALL | But both answers could be right. How can that be? [gesture]  | 6 & 7 | Perform any of our operations next.   |
| 3   | Our teacher told us that only there could only be one correct answer.  | ALL   | Going from left to right. [gesture]   |
| ALL | How do we know which one is the right one?   | 8     | (prop) I am addition.   |
| 4   | Take a guess at it.  | 9     | (prop) And I am subtraction.  |
| 5   | Do 'eenie meanie minie mo?   | 8 & 9 | We're next in the order of operations.  |
| 6   | Pray really hard.  | ALL   | Going from left to right [gesture]  |
| 1   | No, you don't have to do any of those. There is an easier way to do this. We will use a method called the order of operations. | 10    | To sum it up, there is a chant we can use. All together now... And a 1... and a 2... and a 1, 2, 3.....   |
| ALL | The order of operations? What's that? [gesture]  | ALL   | (chant)<br>Parenthesis first<br>Exponents next<br>Multiplication and division in the same step [gesture]<br>Addition and subtraction if you have the nerve<br>From left to right [gesture]<br>First come, first serve [gesture] |
| 2   | The order of operations is a specific order for evaluating expressions so that we all get the same correct answer.             | 10    | One more time!  |
| ALL | How do we do the order of operations?  | ALL   | (chant)<br>Parenthesis first<br>Exponents next<br>Multiplication and division in the same step [gesture]<br>Addition and subtraction if you have the nerve<br>From left to right [gesture]<br>First come, first serve [gesture] |
| 3   | We do the order of operations in the following magnificent way.  |       |   |
| 4   | I am a grouping symbol.  |       |   |
| ALL | What's a grouping symbol?  |       |   |
| 4   | (Prop) Grouping symbols are brackets, braces, and parenthesis. You perform all operations within any of my symbols first.      |       |   |