

ROMAN NUMERALS

The symbols 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 0, are called **Arabic Numerals**, but in writing numbers other symbols called **Roman Numerals** are sometimes used. These are the capital letters I, V, X, L, C, D, and M. These numerals are used in putting dates on buildings, in numbering the chapters of a book, in numbering the hours on the dials of clocks, and for other special purposes.

The value of I is 1; of V, 5; of X, 10; of L, 50; of C, 100; of D, 500; and of M, 1000.

All numbers are expressed in these numerals as follows:

(a) The letters I, X, C, and M, may each be repeated as often as three times, and when the letter is repeated its value is repeated. Thus XX represents 2 tens, that is 20; MMM represents 3 thousand, that is 3000.

(b) A letter of less value placed *after* a letter of greater value *adds* its value to the greater. Thus XVII is 10 and 5 and 1 and 1, or 17.

(c) I placed *before* V or X takes away its value from that of V or X. Thus IV is 4 and IX is 9. X placed before L or C takes away its value from that of L or C. Thus XL is 40 and XC is 90. So, too, C placed before D or M takes away its value from that of D or M. Thus CD is 400 and CM is 900.

(d) Placing a bar over a letter changes its value into thousands. Thus $\overline{D}$ is 500 thousand, that is, 500,000.

EXERCISE 4

(Oral and Written)

1. Read the following and then write each in Arabic numerals: