

Foster Care to Academic Success

Math Tests

Studying for the test

Studying for math is different than studying for other subjects. Math is learned by doing problems. Therefore, ALWAYS do the homework. In math, each class builds on every previous lesson; falling a day behind puts you at a disadvantage and falling a week behind can be a disaster. On the other hand, because each class builds on every previous lesson you are always reviewing and you have less to learn at the end of the chapter or semester if you have kept up with your homework.

- When you are studying for a test, go over each section and rework the problems – cover up your answers and try them again.
- Explain formulas and mathematical strategies in words, out loud, to be sure you understand them. Write them down on index cards to study every time you have a spare minute.
- Work problems from the review sections at the end of chapters. In studying for math, the key is to work problems, over and OVER.

Taking the test

- Look over the entire test. Identify questions you think you can answer right away.
- Work the easiest problems first. This will build your confidence and ensure that you don't miss any points you should have gotten just because you ran out of time.
- Work QUICKLY and CONTINUOUSLY. If you get stuck on a problem, move on and then come back to it if you have time in the end.
- Work by the clock – On a 50-minute, 100-question test, you have 30 seconds per question. Start with the easy questions, and when you get to the harder ones spend the allotted time on each one and move on if you cannot finish it.
- Show all of your work. This makes it easier for the professor to see how much you know, and to allow you partial points if you cannot finish the question or the answer is incorrect.
- Never waste precious time erasing – just draw a line through work you want ignored and move on.
- VERIFY your answers.
- If you finish the test early, go back and CHECK every problem.

**Study well, be careful in your computations, review your answers
– you'll do great!**