

Self review material: Overview.

Self Review Materials

Overview

Highline Community College

What is it:

The Highline Community College self-review materials are resources for you to regain skills that are prerequisite to a class you are taking. Your instructor may say, “You will remember from last quarter ...” followed by something unfamiliar. Such lapses are *normal*. These self-review materials allow you to recover skills as you need them and at your own pace. It will take a bit of your time. It will take a bit of work. This time and work will be amply repaid.

Each sheet will have some words in **bold type**. These words should be part of your active vocabulary. Look them up in a dictionary; ask in the tutoring center for an explanation; use the vocabulary until you are comfortable with it.

Sample solution:

Each self-review sheet will have at least one sample fully worked out. This solution will likely be the same as one presented on a video. Mark up the sample. Note any questions. Ask in the tutoring center. Fully understand the sample.

Exercises for review:

Each self-review sheet will have several exercises for you to solve. These exercises will be (roughly) in increasing order of difficulty. You may find that you fully understand the video yet cannot easily solve all the exercises. This is normal. Understanding and solving are separate skills. Both are vital. When you work an exercise, do so in a neat, orderly, step-by-step manner. Show enough information in each step that a knowledgeable outsider can easily follow your thought process. Be sure that you can follow the solution yourself. The test for showing enough work: *Can a knowledgeable outsider easily locate a mistake?*

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Specific Resources For Review.

Aufman, Baker, Lockwood, Intermediate Algebra with applications: 512 A918i 1992. Chapter 2
– First degree equations
Chapter 7 Quadratic equations
Chapter 6 Linear equations in 2 variables

Wesner, Mahler, College Algebra with applications 512 W514c
Section 2-1 Linear equations
Section 2-2 Quadratic equations
Section 6 Systems of Linear equations

www.sosmath.com/algebra/algebra.html /fraction, /quadratic (Great stuff but will try to sell you things)

How to Approach a Review:

Print: Each topic will provide you one or more books or articles to review. The materials will be available in the library, in the tutoring center and/or in the Mathematics Lab (building 17). Look up the appropriate topic in the table of contents and in the index of each book. Read the material. If you don't fully understand on first reading, try a few exercises. Ask for tutoring help. If it still does not come, read the material again. If still unsure, read a second book's discussion of the same material – don't get discouraged, mathematics is challenging (and fun). An excellent source for background skills is A.A. Klaf's, *Arithmetic Refresher For Practical Men*, ISBN 0-486-21241-6. This book has step-by-step instructions for long multiplication, long division, factoring, extracting a square root and more.

Video: Each topic will provide you with one or more video sources. The video is a supplement to the reading, not a replacement. The more senses you get involved the better. So *read, watch, listen, write* notes, and *solve* exercises.

Web-Sites: Most topics will provide you with one or more sites on the World Wide Web. Most web sites cover many topics. (Many web sites have products to sell. Mention of a site should not be construed as an endorsement of any product whatsoever. In fact, avoid spending money. Ample material is available for free!) The more senses you get involved the better. So *read, click, write* notes, and *solve* exercises.

Some general sites to try: www.mathforum.org/library/drmath,

“Common mistakes in college math”: www.math.vanderbilt.edu/~schectex/commerrs

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