**A Guide for Reading Mathematics Textbooks** This year in Advanced Algebra II you will be asked to pre- read a section of your textbook, study the examples, and be ready to discuss the topic the next day in class. Reading a math textbook can be difficult, especially until you get the hang of it, so here are some tips for reading your math textbook and what you need to provide to get credit for your reading.

Tip 1: Begin reading at the “?Essential Question.” There is an “explore” exercise given at the very beginning of the section, but we’ll work on those in class in your workbook.

Tip 2: As you read, focus on concepts, not specific math problems. You cannot memorize types of math problems. Take the time to understand the concept and then you can solve any type of problem.

Tip 3: Read the text more than once. The first time you read scan for the big idea. The second time you read begin to fill in the details. Think about the key concepts, theorems, and formulas and how they are used.

Tip 4: Study the examples, pictures, and diagrams. Pay attention to what is important to the key concepts of the particular section.

Tip 5: Make notes of what you don’t understand so that you can ask in class. Our e-textbook has some great interactive tutorials available so don’t forget to check them out.

Tip 6: The “Concept Summary” is the last thing you need to read. We will work from the “Do you UNDERSTAND”, “Do you KNOW HOW”, and “Practice and Problem Solving” sections later.

You need to:

1. Write all **vocabulary words** (found in a list at the beginning of the section) and their definitions. The glossary may be a great tool for this section. This is also great place to go back and include key concepts that aren’t on the list but that you notice while you read. Also try writing the definition in your own words to increase understanding.
2. Write down any **formulas or theorems** that are used in the section.
3. After you have read through the section twice, attempt the examples. You must show work for **at least 3 examples**. You should pick the 3 examples you think are most important. Not just the first 3 and not just the shortest 3! Please attempt to answer the example on your own first before looking at their solution. You will not learn by just copying the work from the book without really thinking through the ideas. Study the examples and try to understand how a formula or theorem was used. Don’t worry about the “Try It” questions after each example…we’ll get to those later.
4. Include **other notes** you may have about this section and/or how it relates to the Topic overall.
5. Make a **list of questions** about the section that need to be addressed the next day.
6. Go back and copy the “**I CAN**” statement from the beginning of the section and rank whether you really *can* do the material in this section yet or whether you need more time to work with the concepts.

You are also getting a copy of a graphic organizer. It is a *suggestion* for how you want to keep your pre-read notes organized. You don’t have to organize them exactly like this, but you must include all of the same components. Remember to give your best effort in completing these pre-read notes. Don’t do the minimum just to say you’ve finished it. The more effort you give to these the better you will understand the material. Also, the ability to read text well will be invaluable in college, so practice it now and you’ll be so glad you did!!!

Section Number:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Section Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is the Essential Question???

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Vocabulary | Formulas/Theorems | |
| Additional Notes/Questions for Tomorrow | |
| Work for at least 3 examples | | Rate your understanding of this section:  E = easy, I’ve got this and can move on  M= Medium, I have some questions, but once those are answers I should be fine.  H= hard, I need help on this. |