Math Study Skills Inventory

Rate your achievement of the following statements by placing a 3 for almost always, 2 for sometimes, and 1 for almost never. If you have never even thought about doing what the statement says, put a 0.

Selecting a Math Class

_____ 1. I schedule my math class at a time when I am mentally sharp.

_____ 2. When I register for a math class, I choose the best instructor for me.

_____ 3. If I have a choice, I select a math class that meets three or four days a week instead of one or two.

_____ 4. I schedule the next math class as soon as possible after I have completed the current course.

_____ 5. I am sure that I have signed up for the correct level math course.

Time and Place for Studying Math

_____ 6. I study math every day.

_____ 7. I try to get my math homework done immediately after math class.

_____ 8. I have a specific time to study math.

_____ 9. I have a specific place with few distractions to study math.

_____ 10. I do my math homework at Pi-rate Sessions/Math Clinic where I can get help.

_____ 11. I am careful to keep up to date with math homework.

_____ 12. I study math at least 8 to 10 hours per week.

Study Strategies for Math Class

_____ 13. I read my textbook before I come to class.

_____ 14. If I have trouble understanding the text, I find an alternate text.

_____ 15. I take notes in math class.

_____ 16. I am careful to copy all the steps of math problems in my notes.
17. I ask questions when I am confused.

18. I go to the instructor or to help sessions when I am confused.

19. I try to determine exactly when I got confused and exactly what confused me.

20. I review my notes and text before beginning homework.

21. I work problems until I understand them, not just until I get the right answer for homework.

22. I use flashcards for formulas and vocabulary.

23. I develop memory techniques to remember math concepts.

Math Tests

24. I preview the test before I begin.

25. Before I begin the test, I make notes on things such as formulas that I might need.

26. I begin with the easy questions first.

27. I take the full amount of time allotted for the test.

28. I carefully check or rework as many problems that I have time to before I turn in my test.

29. When tests are returned, I keep a log of the types of mistakes I make on tests; concept errors, application errors, or careless errors.

30. I keep up to date so that I don’t have to cram the night before a test.

Anxiety

31. I believe that I can succeed in math class.

32. I have study partners in my math class.

33. I take practice tests.

34. I know several good relaxation techniques.

Total Score
Scoring

Total your score from all 34 questions.

If your score is 90-103, give yourself an A. You are using the study skills you need in order to be successful in math.

If your score is 80-89, give yourself a B. You are using good math study skills. Choose a few strategies to work on each day, and you will be well on your way to an A.

If your score is 70-79, give yourself a C. Your study skills are average. If you want an A, choose one or two strategies in each category to work on until you are using most of the strategies described in the inventory.

If your score is below 70, you are probably having a difficult time in math class. Math may not be your trouble! More than likely, your main problem is the study strategies you are using (or not using). Make yourself do as many of the thirty-four things listed as you can.