

Math 9A LG 0

COURSE OUTLINE, STRATEGIES AND EXPECTATIONS



LEARNING GUIDE EXPECTATIONS:

On the completion of this learning guide you will be able to:

- 1) identify strategies to be successful in Math 9A.
- 2) identify expectations in the math area.
- 3) explain how to work through your math 9A course.

Introduction:

Welcome to Math 9A! Our goal at THSS is to have you work with this material in the easiest way possible for your learning style. It is with this in mind that we, the THSS mathematics teachers, continue to make changes in the way the course is presented to you – you may even make some changes of your own!



Assessment:

If you refer to your progress profile sheet you will see that there are many places in the course where we will let you choose how to be assessed. Some examples of alternative assessment could include:

- Make a booklet
- Produce a Video
- Oral presentation
- Make a poster
- Produce a Power Point presentation
- Other?

You must meet with your marker for approval before starting any of these alternative assessments so that you know how you will be evaluated in advance.

There are 8 compulsory tests:

- LG 1:** Rational Numbers
- LG 2:** Powers and Exponents
- LG 3:** Unit 1 Test
- LG 7:** Unit 2 Test
- LG 11:** Unit 3 Test
- LG 15:** Unit 4 Test
- LG 18:** Unit 5 Test
- LG 20:** Final Exam (10% of final mark)

Students must achieve a minimum of 60% on a learning guide before going on to the next guide. Many students will want to aim for at least 70% or higher. After writing tests, students are encouraged to see their marker to learn from their mistakes. Students may upgrade their mark on learning guide tests **only if their mark is less than 60%** and must see their marker to do so. **On unit tests, however, students will only have one write and will receive the mark they get on that test for their LG mark.** If the unit test mark is better than the unit average, then the unit test can count for all the learning guides in the unit. Similarly, **the final exam can only be written once** and can be used for the course mark if it is better than the course average mark. **Otherwise, the final exam will count for 10% of your course mark.**

Strategies for Success

The following strategies are encouraged for students to work quickly and effectively through their Math 9 course.

Getting Ready To Learn:

- Make a detailed plan (specific activity for each block, see your planner for examples).
- Have all the supplies needed to do this plan (Learning Guide Package, Textbook, Calculator, Pencils, Erasers, Lined Paper, Ruler, etc.).
- Arrive to the work area on time and be prepared to work for the entire block.
- Choose to work with students who can help you with your Math (ie. Work together on the same guide).

Working Through Your Learning Guide:

- Make regular contact with your marker (even if you think you don't need help, your marker can assist you with your progress through the learning guide).
- Actively read the text. (Make sense of what you are reading and ask if you don't understand it – don't just skip to the questions)
- When doing your work, write the question down, include all your steps, and check your answer in the back of the book before going on to the next question.
- Complete the math journal entries in a separate section of your binder when instructed to do so in the Learning Guide.
- Ask for help with your questions as soon as possible.
- Never stop working on math in the middle of a Learning Guide or a unit (remember there is a unit test). If you get frustrated with your work, see a math teacher.
- Make arrangements as needed to get extra help before school, at lunch, after school (see the teacher of your choice).
- Do homework regularly and review your math on a regular basis at home.
- Make use of as many resources as possible - any Math teacher, other teachers able to help with Math, any student and family members.

Wrapping It Up:

- Show your teacher your marked work and completed math. Journal entries.
- Decide with your marker how your achievement will be assessed.
- Complete the assessment as soon as possible before going on to another learning guide.
- Record your Learning Guide mark in your planner and ask your teacher to confirm it with a signature or initial.

Resources (other than any math teacher or your peers):

Math 9 Text:

The math 9 text has been specifically designed for this course. The MathLinks 9 text is available with your learning guides and math journal pages at the science kiosk.

Internet Resources:

The following websites are useful for this course. If you know of any others not on this list, please tell your math teacher.

<http://www.themathleague.com/help/help.htm> - great for unit 1

<http://www.webmath.com/> - user friendly and comprehensive.

<http://www.sosmath.com/> - lots of topics available.

<http://www.math.com/> - lots of topics available.

<http://www.mathnerds.com/mathnerds/> - archive of questions plus students are able to ask questions and get answers.

I have read and understand what I need to do to be successful and I am ready to continue my Math journey.

Student Signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____

Parent email: _____