

SCI 199Y: Random Walks and Mathematical Discovery

Discussion question, week 10.

You have read the excerpt from “The psychology of learning mathematics”, by R.R. Skemp.

You will be divided into math-ability-heterogenous groups of about 4 students each.

As a group, have an open-ended, free-ranging discussion about the Skemp excerpt. Try to summarize all of the points he makes, and your reactions to them. Consider the implications of this excerpt to mathematics in general, and try to relate them to previous course readings. Try to think of lots of interesting things to say, even though there are no specific discussion questions!

Assignment for next week:

Read the excerpts from “The teaching and assessing of mathematical problem solving”; from “Assessing student growth in mathematical problem solving”; and from the “NCTM Curriculum and Evaluation Standards”. Be prepared to have a wide-ranging discussion about assessment issues in mathematics education.

Reminder: Your Minor Paper is due on Monday, Dec. 2, at 4:00 p.m. Furthermore, in class on Wednesday Nov. 27, you should be prepared to discuss your ideas for your paper.