

MathNerds – A Philosophy

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Mathematics for English Language Learners

Features

- A Non-profit Corporation
- Free Automated Question & Response Service
- Volunteer Team of 140 Members
- Volunteers may choose level and volume of questions
- Q&R Service is Monitored
- 140,000 Hits/Month
- 100,000 Page Views/Month
- 21,000 Visits
- 1,500 Questions/Month
- 150,000 Questions in Online Database
- Archive of Inquiry-based Materials
- Links Page
- Number 3 on Yahoo Search for "free math help"
- Number 5 on Google Search for "free math help"

Team Member Appointments

- Academic

Amherst College, Arizona State University, Carnegie Mellon University, Colby College, Guilford College, Illinois Institute of Technology, Harvard University, Harvey Mudd, Hebrew University, James Madison University, Lisbon University, Michigan State, New York University, North Carolina State University, Northwestern University, Oakland University, Old Dominion University, Oxford University, Princeton University, San Francisco State University, Tel-Aviv University, Texas State University San Marcos, Texas Tech University, Tulane University, United States Military Academy, Universidade de Lisboa Portugal, University of California Berkeley, University of California Davis, University of California Los Angeles, University of California Santa Barbara, University of Colorado at Boulder, University of Kentucky, University of Maryland, University of New Orleans, University of North Texas, University of Rochester, University of Texas at Dallas, Woodcliff Academy, Youngstown State University

- Industry

AOL/Time Warner, Microsoft, Lockheed Martin, Naval Reactors, Northrop Grumman, Texas Instruments, TRW, Worldspan

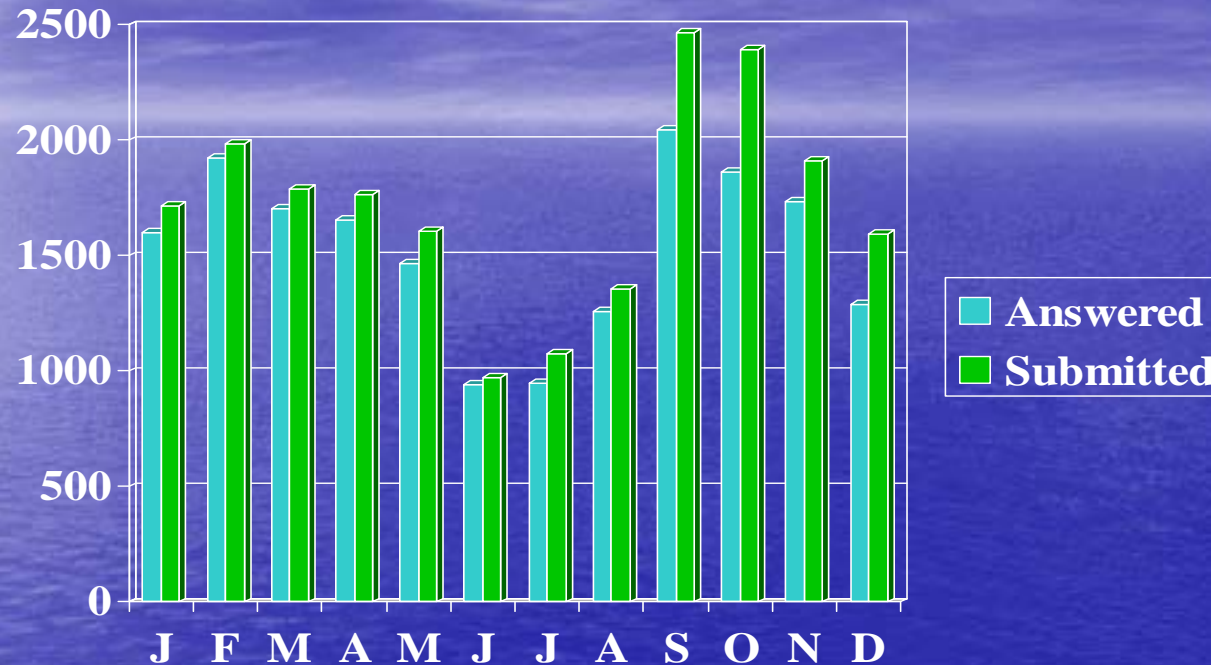
- Other

International Mathematics Olympiad
Numerous Outstanding High Schools

Team Member Appointments

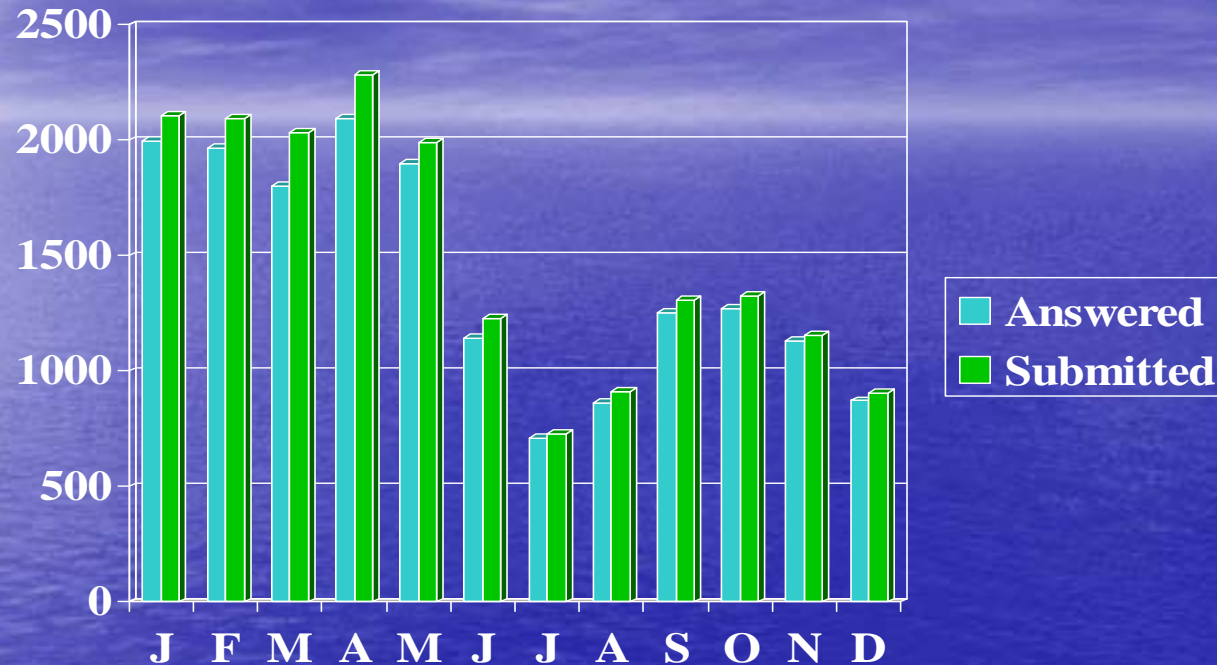
Oakland University, Lakes Community College, Illinois Institute of Technology, San Francisco State, Tel-Aviv University, State of Arizona, Retired US Army Civilian, Texas Instruments, Institute for Peoples Education and Action, James Madison University, Diocesan Boys School of Hong Kong, Illinois Math/Science Academy, Microsoft, JEA, Black Sea Technical University, Tbilisi State University, Lamar University, Indian Institute of Science, Xavier University of Louisiana, Amherst College Massachusetts, Upper Canada District Board of Education, Rowan University, du Toit University of South Africa, DuFour Starr Academy, Portland State University, Bakersfield College, NYC Board of Education, UC Santa Barbara, De Anza College, Canisius College, Rocky Mountain International Academy, University Michigan, Guilford College, Memorial University of Newfoundland & Herdman College, Intellectual Ventures Washington, Stanford University, American Airlines, Naval Reactors, Youngstown State University, Career Launcher, Comenius University, Kosparsov High School Ethiopia, Alphon Corp, Lao University of the Philippines, Old Dominion University, Northrop Grumman, UDLA Mexico, Shimer College, Tutor Time Learning Center, The University of South Dakota, Falmouth Public Schools, Midlands Technical College South Carolina, SAS Oklahoma, Tulane Louisiana, Southern Oregon University, John Wood Community College, Albany County Social Services, New York, Montclair State University New Jersey, Arizona State University, Hebrew University Israel, West Virginia University, University of Nottingham, Raridon, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, LandSHark, LLC, Colby College, Governors School for Science and Mathematics, University of North Texas, Georgia Southern University, Western International University, AOL/Time Warner, self-employed, Murray State University, University of New Orleans, University of Texas at Dallas, Alabama State University, Texas State University Texas - San Marcos, University of Maryland, Mersive Technologies, St. Paul Travelers(Actuary), Youngstown State University, University of Maryland, Compugen Israel, Northwestern University, University of California Santa Barbara, Texas Tech University, De La Salle University, SMUK 7 -1 Singapore, Princeton University, Nicholls State University, Universidade de Lisboa Portugal, Harvey Mudd, Volunteer State Community College, Willard School Maine, University of Twente Holland, Colby College Maine, Worldspan, New York University, Instituto Superior Técnico Portugal, Coso Community College California, Virginia Commonwealth University, Tsinghua University China, Oxford University, Lisbon University, North Carolina State University, Crisp University of Newcastle (Australia), NMSU New Mexico Paul, University of Vermont, Harvard College New Jersey, Exeter Academy FL, Central Washington University, University of Alabama in Huntsville, Westminster College PA, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Motorola TX,Portmeadow, Inc CA, Washington University, UC Berkeley California, Cambridge Pa, University of Central Arkansas, Raindance Communications CO, Hardee NC Community College System, University of Missouri - Rolla, University of East Anglia UG, School Bangladesh, Pantano Restaurant NY, Drake University, United States Military Academy NY, Imperial College London, University of Kentucky, University of Rochester NY, Midlands Technical College SC, University of Colorado at Boulder Colorado, University of North Texas Texas, University of California Los Angeles, LaRue County KY, Kenyon Ocean Lakes Math & Science Magnet Academy, TRW Colorado, Ratna Junior College, Mercer University Georgia, Cedarville University OH, Union College NY, University of California, Davis, X-Ware Arizona, MIT, University of Alabama in Huntsville, University of Winnipeg Manitoba, Lee College, University of Chicago, US Govt, McDermott, Washington University, Akamai Technologies, The University of Akron School of Law OH, Ohio State University, Christian Heritage Academy, St. Xavier, The Malawi Polytechnic, Seattle Central Community College, Independent Learning Centre - TV Ontario, Air Force, Spheres Academic Services, SUNY Plattsburgh NY, O&A Associates, Hardin-Simmons University, Syracuse University, Temple University PA, University of Missouri-Columbia, Trinity College South Australia, Latvian University, University of Wisconsin, Ragnarsson College Sweden, PROS Strategic Solutions TX, Sul Ross State University, Community College of Philadelphia Pennsylvania, Georgia Institute of Technology, Sharp University of Bath UK, Peel Board of Education Ontario, Reed College, Mathworks DC, UC Berkeley CA, Central Missouri State University, University of Iowa, Carnegie Mellon University, Youngstown State University, Grand Valley State University, Cornell University, Montclair State University, Woodcliff Academy, Bedford Central School District NY, Mitretek Systems VA, Carmike Cinemas TN, Harvard MA, West Chester University Pennsylvania, Chicago Public Schools, Truman College, University of Arizona, Emory and Henry College, Birkenhead School, National Cancer Institute, Lockheed Martin, Politechnics Bucharest Romania, National Institute of Education, Republic of Singapore, Manhattan Gymnastics Center

Question Responses - 2004



- Average Number Responses Per Month: 1540
- Average Monthly Percent Responded: 98%
- Average Response Time: 16 Hours
- 8% Rejection Rate

Question Responses - 2005



Average Number Responses Per Month: 1417

Average Monthly Percent Responded: 97%

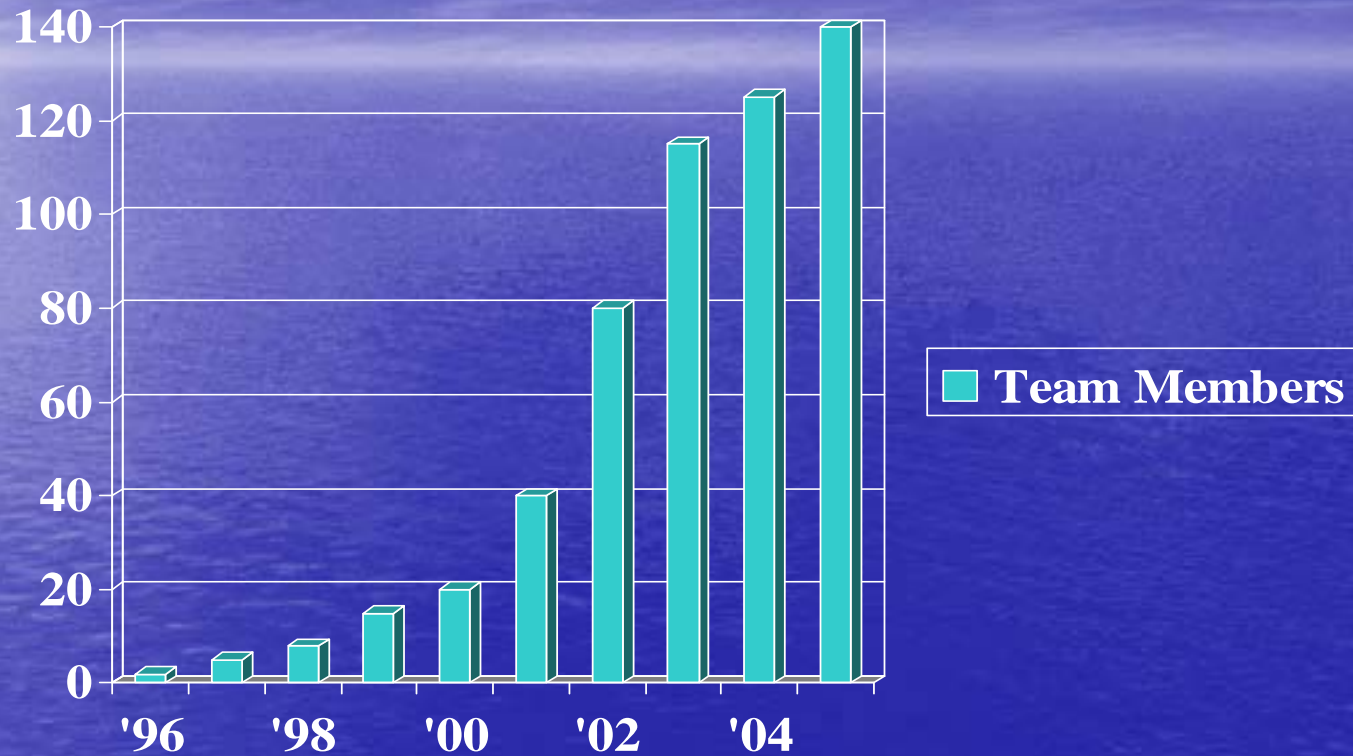
Average Response Time: 16 Hours

3% Rejection Rate

Media Coverage

- 2006 Math Explorer Magazine, [Texas Mathworks](#)
- 2003 MathNerds Featured on KDFM [Channel 6 News](#)
- 2003 "Math-E-Matics: Helping with math homework everywhere gives nerds a good name," Cathy Cashio, [The North Texan](#)
- 2002 "MathNerds Offers Discovery-Style Mathematics on the Web," De Angelis, Dawkins, Mahavier, and Stenger, MAA Newsletter, [FOCUS](#)
- 2002 "Ask the MathNerds," [Cardinal Cadence](#)
- 2002 "Your Mentor in Cyberspace is Standing By Now," Jennifer Medina, [New York Times](#)
- 2000 "MathNerds," [Woman's World Magazine](#)
- 2000 "On-line Homework Helpers," [Working Mother Magazine](#)
- 2000 MathNerds Review: [Education World](#) (on-line)
- 1998 "The Math Doctor," [Acadiana Profile](#)

Team Member Growth By Year



More that 360 people have volunteered on the project since its inception.

Support To Date

- Cajunworks.com
- Xavier University of Louisiana
- Lamar University College of Engineering
- Lamar University College of Arts and Sciences
- Texas Education Agency
- Meadows Foundation
- Houston Endowment???

- Volunteer Hours Contributed: \$2.8M
(.25 hour per question x 150,000 questions x \$75/hour)
- Administrative Hours Contributed: \$821K
(1 hour per day x 365 days per year x \$75/hr x 3 people x 10 yr)

Ongoing Projects

- Cosmetic Surgery
- Bilingual this Month!
- Teacher Training at James Madison University and Harrisonburg ISD, '05 – '06
- Teacher Training at Texas State University San Marcos and San Marcos ISD, '06 – '08
- NSF Proposals for Course Development
- Math Chat and Math Palettes
- Lamar's MathNerds Center
- Non-profit 501(c)3 Status

How It Works

- **Date Submitted :** 5/22/2000 6:53:00 PM
Assigned To : Doug Faires ([Email](#))
From : jorge ([Email](#))
Category : 6-8 Middle School
- **Question:** How do we see math in our every day living?
- **MathNerds Answer:** It depends on your definition of mathematics. Mine is the application of quantitative skills based on logic. In other word, thinking correctly with a number sense. This helps me analyze which car I should buy (after my daughter wrecked mine), how I can organize my appointments most effectively, whether I should believe the predictions on various things I read in the paper or hear in the news (most of which are badly biased in the view of the presenter, by the way). Let me turn your question around a bit. How do you use reading in every day life? You could probably give quite a number of answers, but there are so many that are simply second nature that you use this skill without realizing it. The same with quantitative skills, i.e. mathematics.
- **Jorge's Reply:** Thank you so much If it hadent been because of yuo I woud have faild my math class I give you all my thank

2006 Middle School Question

- Question: I have the answer, but do not understand how the answer book came up with the equation.

Q: There are 18 men on 2 baseball teams. Two-thirds of them brought their sons to watch them play. How many brought their sons.

A: $18 \div 3 = 6; 6 \times 2 = 12$

- Work Done: not sure how to write divided...I used \div above.
Thanks, Rieley
- MathNerds Answer (5/30/2006 8:46:00 PM): your work is right except for that you forgot that there were 2 basketball teams.... so there actually would be double the number of sons, than what you have actually calculated
- Reiley's reply (6/2/2006 7:15:00 PM): thank you! We got it now :)
- MathNerds Answer (6/3/2006 5:48:00 PM) Nice Job

Typical 2002 Question

- **Question:** Solve using the elimination method:

$$6x + 2y - 4z = 15$$

$$-3x - 4y + 2z = -6$$

$$4x - 6y + 3z = 8$$

- **Reply:** Add 2 times the first row to the second row, and add 3 times the first row to the third row. Now what?

Typical Student Response

Hello, there! Um.....I would like to thank you for not only helping me with that problem, but also saving my sanity!! =) My brain was getting very tired and confused! So, thanks for taking the time to help! I appreciate it! By the way, (Just thought I`d throw this in here!) I think it`s really great that you volunteer your time! (I`d offer to volunteer myself.....but I`d probably just make people cry with my math expertise!!!!) =) Have a great day!!!! Sincerely, Karen =)

Middle School Question

Question:

How do you change slope intercept form to standard form?

Work Done:

$$y=6x+12$$

$$6x=12+-12=y+12$$

$$6x=y+12$$

$$6x/6=y/6+12/6$$

$$x=1/6y+2$$

Is this right?

Preservice Teacher's Response

MathNerds Answer:

I would re-think how you worked this problem. Remember that the standard form of an equation is: $Ax + By = C$ (where A , B , and C are real numbers). Therefore, when working with this problem in slope-intercept form, you need to get Ax and By on the same side of the equation.

HISD Middle School Question

Question:

What exactly makes the slope of a vertical line undefined?

Work Done:

Slope of a vertical line is $1/0$. Is it undefined because you can't divide anything into 0 (or no) pieces?

JMU Methods Class Response

MathNerds Answer:

You have done a very good job with this question, but I would like for you to think about why the slope of a vertical line is $1/0$. How did you figure this out? I do not think that the slope of every vertical line is $1/0$, but I do think that the slope of a vertical line is some number over 0. It seems like you know that 0 is in the denominator of a vertical line slope because all the points on the vertical line share the same x coordinate. You are correct that you can not divide a number by 0, but what does this mean about the slope. Remember, the slope of a line equals rise/run. What does 0 tell you about the run of the vertical line? This is why it is undefined. Great job so far. Please ask any more questions you may have.

From the Guestbook

- Mathnerds is the best of all the websites i have gone to. I used to get C's in my grades but now i am getting straight A's in my math class. I am now in 8th grade and my teachers have already put me in geometry because my grades are the highest in the whole class all because of mathnerd.com. Thank you very much and i will keep visiting your site every single day. i regret to say that i have no email address but i my friends are also using your site and they all send their most sincere thanks to everybody in mathnerd.com. Most grateful Bruce Evans.
- Hi. I just asked a question and it literally took, what? 5 minutes to get it answered. I am so grateful for finding this site and getting the help I needed. I LOVE YOU MATHNERDS! YOU'RE THE BEST! P.S. Is it possible for me info on the person that helped me? I would like to thank them personally.
- sum time back i got immense help from this site regarding my math problems...now i'm over with exams n got A(95%) in maths ..a lot of whose credit goes 2 this wonderful site...

From the Guestbook

- Hey, this website is awesome! I wasn't really struggling in math. I just wasn't up to the potential I could be at. Now I'm doing better than before and can say I'm not just passing, but acing it.:) :) :)
- hey...i really like this website because it helps me on my math problems ...especially word problems....of course i have good.....news!!!!!!!!!!!!!!1i got an A on my math....all because of you guys....i love you all!!!!!!!!!!!!!! very much.....reply bak!!!!
- I saw a brief segment about your site on the local news and would like to thank you all for lending your time and effort to all the "needy" people out there. I teach mathematics at the junior high level and it is nice to see a user friendly site that my students could navigate to get their "answer". I also really appreciate the fact that this site is not an "answer bank". I totally agree that if you just give the answer that they don't learn as much as when they figure it out for themselves. And once again, job WELL DONE!!, Cheryl Phelan

Thank You

Thm: Texas is Beautiful

Proof:



Q.E.D.

July 27, 2009

Thm: Everyone in Texas Owns a Gun

Proof:



Q.E.D.

MathNerds