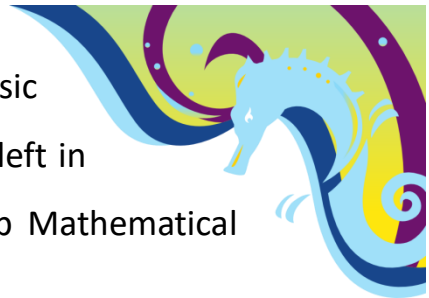


Mathematics as a whole is like a stack of building blocks put together and held in place by a foundation. If basic concepts are not understood properly, cracks or gaps are left in the foundation, posing a risk of collapse (failure to grasp Mathematical concepts).




Here is some advice to prevent that from happening:


- ✓ Ensure adequate knowledge in times table.
- ✓ Keep doing mental arithmetic – even with the availability of calculators in high school.
- ✓ Keep a rules book – rules should be written in own words with examples.
- ✓ Keep practising newly learnt rules/methods: try for 10 minutes every day. Prevent sections from becoming unfamiliar. Also, revise old material often.
- ✓ If stuck with a section: go back to the basics. Master them first, then proceed.
- ✓ Ask for help if something still does not make sense. In Mathematics, everything builds upon each other!
- ✓ Try different types of questions for every section, for example, work through word problems to ensure a firm understanding.
- ✓ Try seek out patterns that can be applied to multiple problems to deepen ones understanding.
- ✓ To solve problems, use sketches.
- ✓ To build confidence and enjoyment in Mathematics, work on the basics and once mastered increase the level of difficulty before moving onto other problems and exercises.

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