

Assessing Student Presentations of New Material in Advanced Calculus

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MAA MathFest
August 4, 2007

I ask each student in Advanced Calculus to present new material for one class period each term

- Presenter gains a deeper understanding of their topic
- Classmates ask more questions and are often more engaged than in typical lecture
- A break in the routine

The students are teaching a class, so I expect

- Good preparation - handling of questions
- Appropriate pace - feel the audience
- Present in their own style - don't just read notes
- Flawless logic - it is Advanced Calculus after all

- Good temporal flow
- Good blackboard technique
- Split time reasonably between board and students - eye contact
- No misspelling, poor grammar or punctuation, etc.
- Clear graphics (if used)

Student Presentation Scoring Guide and Rubric

Score Evaluation Criteria	4	3	2	1	0	Weight	Possible points
Introduction - Effectiveness of your brief initial discussion of the content, scope, and flow of your presentation	Your introduction makes perfectly clear the salient points and scope of your talk	A bit too brief (or too long), or missing an important item	Contains some relevant information but not nearly enough	Poorly worded or confusing introduction	No introduction	2	8
Logical Clarity - Your effectiveness in presenting your ideas without (uncorrected) logical flaws	No logical errors	One or two logical errors	Three logical errors	Four logical errors	Five or more logical errors	3	12
Subject Knowledge - Your ability to handle questions	You answer 90% or more of the questions fully and with appropriate elaboration	Your answer to 70%-90% of the questions was sufficient	Your answer to 40%-69% of the questions was sufficient	Your answer to 10%-39% of the questions was sufficient	Your answer to less than 10% of the questions was sufficient	4	16
Temporal Organization - To what degree your talk proceeded without jumping around between ideas, or filling in a detail which should have been provided earlier	All ideas presented in a logical, clear sequence	One unanticipated jump between ideas or filled-in missing detail	Two or three such errors	Four or five such errors	Six or more such errors	3	12
Spatial Organization - Your blackboard technique and neatness; note that slides minimize your chances of scoring poorly here	Excellent use of space, obvious boundaries between ideas, clear and legible handwriting	One or two instances of cramming, poor handwriting, or unclear boundaries	Three or four such instances	Five such instances	More than five such instances	3	12

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Score Evaluation Criteria	4	3	2	1	0	Weight	Possible points
Relative Pace - The appropriateness of the pace of your talk for your audience	Ideal pace for the class, you pause when appropriate	Infrequent inappropriate pace, but you still check your audience often for apparent grasp	Several instances of inappropriate pace, but you still check your audience several times	Pace typically but not always inappropriate	Consistently too fast or too slow	2	8
Delivery / Eye Contact - How well you interacted with your audience	You speak to the audience, you almost never check your notes, and you spoke clearly	Good eye contact, but you return to your notes occasionally, or occasionally speak too quietly	Fair eye contact with your audience, but you frequently return to your notes or speak too quietly	You are usually reading from your notes or speaking too quietly	No eye contact to speak of, or you're presentation was very difficult to hear	3	12
Mechanics - Spelling, grammar, punctuation, etc.	No such errors	One or two such errors	Three or four such errors	Four or five such errors	More than five such errors	1	4
Creativity / Paraphrasing - The degree to which your talk was presented in your own style	Obviously you owned the presentation	Well-paraphrased with a few unnecessary exceptions	Some creativity, but you seem quite bound to the source material	Little creativity or paraphrasing	Presentation recited from the source material	2	8
Graphics - The relevance and clarity of your graphics (if you used, or should have used, any)	Graphics are clear, presented at appropriate times, and each reinforces or explains an idea in your talk	Good graphics, but some room for improvement in clarity, neatness, or relevance	Significant room for improvement	Poorly presented or some missing graphics	Confusing graphics, or no graphics when there should have been	2	8
						25	100

Final note: They must get 75 points or higher

They repeat the assignment to accomplish this, if necessary

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