

**Exercise 1.1** Read *The Secret to Raising Smart Kids* By Carol Dweck and write a few paragraphs about what you learned and how it may help you be successful in a proof-based math class.

I really enjoyed this article. I believe that *The Secret to Raising Smart Kids* hit the nail right on the head. While reading, I was reminded of the satisfaction of improvement. When I look back at my proudest achievement, it took me two years to complete. I spent hours with little progress. Regardless, my understanding of the problem grew tremendously. In October, my friends and I participated in the University of Waterloo's senior math contest. Many of the concepts used were new to us. We spent hours every day preparing for the test. Even though I didn't do very well, it's still one of the biggest reasons I got interested in math. That month of preparation was the most productive I've been.

Currently, I'm on summer break. I plan to focus on understanding and improving my skills when I return. Specifically with Science, I hope to obsess over it. After I finish this chapter, I plan to order *Ordinary Differential Equations* by Morris Tenenbaum and Harry Pollard to help me learn physics and chemistry.

This isn't the first time I am reading this book. I've read through most of the book previously. However, I did not spend the time doing the problems. In my opinion, this was a huge mistake. I am currently reading the book again, this time working through the problems.

**Exercise 1.2** Explain the error in the following “proof” that  $2 = 1$ .

Let  $x = y$ . Then,

$$x^2 = xy \tag{1}$$

$$x^2 - y^2 = xy - y^2 \tag{2}$$

$$(x + y)(x - y) = y(x - y) \tag{3}$$

$$x + y = y \tag{4}$$

$$2y = y \tag{5}$$

$$2 = 1 \tag{6}$$

$$\tag{7}$$

**Answer :** On line 4, the proof divides by  $x - y$ , however since  $x = y$  this step divides by 0.

**Exercise 3.9** Write down all subsets of each of the following.

(a)  $\{1, 2, 3\}$

(b)  $\{\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}\}$

(c)  $\{\mathbb{N}, \{\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}\}\}$

(d)  $\emptyset$

**Answer (a)**  $\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 3\}, \{1, 2, 3\}$   
**Answer (b)**  $\emptyset, \{\mathbb{N}\}, \{\mathbb{Q}\}, \{\mathbb{R}\}, \{\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{Q}\}, \{\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{R}\}, \{\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}\}, \{\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}\}$   
**Answer (c)**  $\emptyset, \{\mathbb{N}\}, \{\{\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}\}\}, \{\mathbb{N}, \{\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}\}\}$   
**Answer (d)**  $\emptyset$