SHANGHAI JIAO TONG UNIVERSITY, UM-SJTU JOINT INSTITUTE

Technical Communication
HW3

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1 MIND MAP

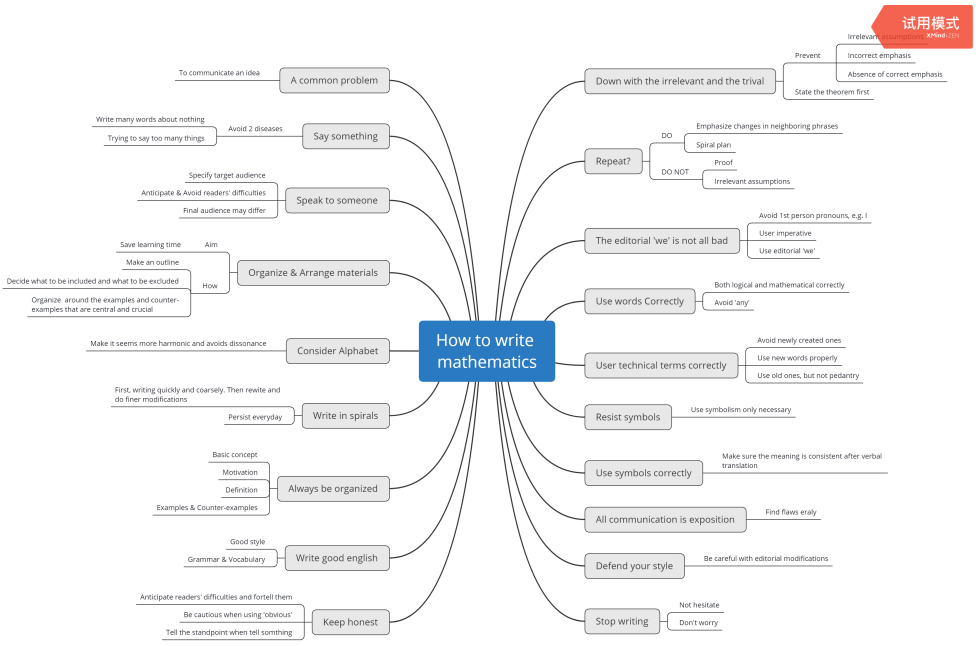

Figure 1.1: How to write mathematics

2 GROUP EXERCISE

After discussion, we all think figures are generally properly used in this article, and comments from us are listed as below.

2.1 COMMENTS FROM YU CANG

From my point of view, most of the pictures used are of high quality and are both clear and concise. Most of the sketches are showed in 2D mode, which avoid 3D distortion and are easy to identify their meanings. Combination of colors are well arranged, where contrast is apparent and is suitable for printing and visualization. Line plots like Fig. 7 and Fig. 8 are simple and clear, without too many curves exhibited in one plot, distinctions and trends are well reflected. Besides, one remarkable point is that all the labels, if necessary, are accompanied with precisely stated units, which facilitates readers when making comparison and judgement.

However, some details in these figures need to be furnished. The arrows in Fig. 5 are too dense. The ending points of indicating lines in Fig. 9 seems randomly placed, without a consistent compliance. Further, the gray figure in Fig. 10 may not reveal the distinctions well enough, and may get blurred when printed in black and white.

2.2 COMMENTS FROM RONGHAN CHEN

Generally, the figures in the article look clear at the first sight. The sketches are beautiful. But if we look carefully, we can find many flaws. First, the tips of the arrows are not consistent. For fig. 1, the gap between arrows and targets are different. For fig. 5, the arrows on the right lie on the edges of targets, while the arrow on the top sticks into the target. Second, some of the labels are bad. For fig. 6, fig. 7 and fig. 9, the labels of the axis are a bit vague compared to fig. 10. Third, some texts on the figures are hard to read. For fig. 4, the direction of the words should keep horizontal. For fig. 3, the serial numbers are hard to see. Fourth, the selection of thickness is bad. The arrows in fig. 9 are too thick, as well as the line in fig. 11. In my point of view, I think fig. 8 is the best one of all the figures.

2.3 COMMENTS FROM RUI GAO

The figures in the paper by Johnson and Popil are of acceptable quality but not the best among what I have seen. The choice of color are well designed to facilitate reading. The size of words within the figures are designed to be slightly larger than the size of the text. The information within each figure is clearly conveyed. I could have a coarse idea of the whole topic after reading these figures only (i.e. they speak for themselves).

However, I could see that the figures blur slightly even at 100% size, which means that when printed on A4 paper (equal to 120% size) they would also blur. This also indicate that the figures are not vector plots, and the dpi is not high enough. In addition, while the arrows are large and clear enough, the endings are not unified (there are arrows that ends before, at,

and after the object they are indicating, for example in figure 1). While the font size is well designed, the fonts in different figures seems to be different (switching between bold and normal). The colorbars in Fig. 10 are not aligned with each other in an unnecessary manner. A few figures seems to be stretched slightly, like Fig. 6.

3 WRITTING SKILLS

1. "**Just act naturally**": 'naturally' is not suitable to be adverb for 'act'.
   "**Please give your unbiased opinion**": No objective in this sentence.
   "**I need an exact estimate by Friday**": The two words: 'exact' and 'estimate' contradict with each other.

2. Before the agent was ~~completely~~ able to ~~finish~~ explain~~ing~~ the ~~various~~ differences between ~~all of~~ the ~~many~~ outdoor event packages her company was offering, the customer changed his ~~future~~ plans.

4 LaTeX

Listed as follows

(a) Wozoco Housing

(b) Silodam Housing

Figure 4: Housing in Amsterdam

The extruded boxes which give the unique profile to the building result from the main constraint of density. These suspended elements projecting out of the main structure provide additional housing units and as a side effect create a sound proof barrier to the city noises. With the Silodam Housing complex (fig. 4b), also located in Amsterdam, the main issue was to bring back to life the pier of the IJ River. When the harbor fell into a decline, the buildings, warehouses, and shipyards were left unused. The intention was to integrate high density building in response to the housing shortage. They fused with the character of the harbour by reinterpreting the image of the silos and provided highly flexible spaces as a token of sustainability.

Figure 5: Trade Fair Center (Milan)

For many years, Massimilio Fuksas has dedicated his special attention to the study of urban problems and in particular to the suburbs. Without denying the heritage of modernism he was able to overcome the rigidity of its figures by mixing both a deconstructivist expression and a philosophical interpretation of nature.

In the Milan's new Trade Fair (fig. 5), the transparent coverage modifies spaces and represents the continuity of vision. A series of buildings connect at ground level and at footbridge level suspended above treated landscaped areas with water, green surfaces and concrete. All space are covered by the lightweight structure undulating like a veil. This glass roofing reminds natural artefacts such as craters, waves, dunes, and hills. The shape is never repetitive, offering a varying perspective similar to natural landscapes. The evolution of his production shows how he radicalized his approach to confront the architectural object to its surrounding environment. More recently he won the competition to design the Chengdu Tianfu cultural and performance centre(fig. 6) in Chengdu. In this project Fuksas combines four elliptical