

Quotes

You can easily find lots of mathematics quotes on the internet. Here are a few:

1)

To call in the statistician after the experiment is done may be no more than asking him to perform a post-mortem examination. He may be able to say what the experiment died of.

R. A. Fisher

2)

Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler.

A. Einstein

3)

A mathematician is a machine for turning coffee into theorems.

P. Erdos

4)

The mathematician's patterns, like the painter's or the poet's must be beautiful; the ideas, like the colours or the words must fit together in a harmonious way. Beauty is the first test: there is no permanent place in this world for ugly mathematics.

G. H. Hardy

5)

Mathematics is a game played according to certain simple rules with meaningless marks on paper.

D. Hilbert

6)

Logic is the art of going wrong with confidence.

M. Kline

7

In mathematics you don't understand things, you just get used to them.

J. von Neumann

8)

In the fall of 1972 President Nixon announced that the rate of increase of inflation was decreasing. This was the first time a sitting president used the third derivative to advance his case for re-election.

H. Rossi

9)

I remember once going to see Ramanujan when he was lying ill at Putney. I had ridden in taxi cab number 1729 and remarked that the number seemed to me rather a dull one, and that I hoped it was not an unfavourable omen. "No," he replied, "it is a very interesting number; it is the smallest

number expressible as the sum of two cubes in two different ways."

G. H. Hardy

10)

It is more important to have beauty in one's equations than to have them fit experiment.

P. A. M. Dirac

11)

Mathematicians do not study objects, but relations between objects. Thus, they are free to replace some objects by others so long as the relations remain unchanged. Content to them is irrelevant: they are interested in form only.

H. Poincaré

12)

Ordinary language is totally unsuited for expressing what Physics really asserts, since the words of everyday life are not sufficiently abstract. Only mathematics and mathematical logic can say as little as the physicist means to say.

B. Russell

13)

The propositions of mathematics have, therefore, the same unquestionable certainty which is typical of such propositions as "All bachelors are unmarried," but they also share the complete lack of empirical content which is associated with that certainty. The propositions of mathematics are devoid of all factual content; they convey no information whatever on any empirical subject matter.

C. Hempel

14)

The universe cannot be read until we have learnt the language and become familiar with the characters in which it is written. It is written in mathematical language, and the letters are triangles, circles and other geometrical figures, without which means it is humanly impossible to comprehend a single word.

G. Galileo

15)

[Criticized for using formal mathematical manipulations, without understanding how they worked]

Should I refuse a good dinner simply because I do not understand the process of digestion?

O. Heaviside

16)

If triangles invented a god, they would make him three-sided.

Montesquieu

17)

If I have seen further than others, it is by standing upon the shoulders of giants.

I. Newton

18)

Mathematics is the art of giving the same name to different things.

H. Poincare

19)

Thus Mathematics may be defined as the subject in which we never know what we are talking about, nor whether what we are saying is true.

B. Russell

20)

In science, you want to say something that nobody knew before, in words which everyone can understand. In poetry you want to say something that everyone knows already in words that nobody can understand.

P. A. M. Dirac

21)

One cannot escape the feeling that these mathematical formulas have an independent existence and an intelligence of their own, that they are wiser than we are, wiser even than their discoverers, that we get more out of them than was originally put into them.

H. Hertz

22)

Reductio ad absurdum, which Euclid loved so much, is one of a mathematician's finest weapons. It is a far finer gambit than any chess play: a chess player may offer the sacrifice of a pawn or even a piece, but a mathematician offers the game.

G. H. Hardy

23)

Mathematics, rightly viewed, possesses not only truth, but supreme beauty – a beauty cold and austere, like that of sculpture, without appeal to any part of our weaker nature, without the gorgeous trappings of painting or music, yet sublimely pure and capable of a stern perfection such as only the greatest art can show.

B. Russell

24)

Read Euler, read Euler, he is the master of us all.

P. S. Laplace

25)

There is no branch of mathematics, however abstract, which may not some day be applied to the phenomena of the real world

N. Lobatchevsky

26)

He uses statistics as a drunken man uses lamp-posts. For support rather than illumination.

A. Lang