

Reading a Math Textbook

Why do I want you to read a math textbook?

Because I love irony (and because sometimes videos are more compelling) I made a video answering this question.

<https://youtu.be/3J8sv8cdJBY>

If you don't need convincing or just want quick bullet points here are some:

- Reading math is essential to higher level mathematics.
- Reading math allows you to engage with concepts more than procedures.
- Reading math allows you to pace yourself and prepares you for other forms of engagement.
- Reading math can be difficult because it requires active engagement and productive struggle, but that is the point.

How to read a math textbook

First, read the tips on this website:

<https://northernnoaks.greatheartsamerica.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/03/How-to-Read-a-Math-Textbook-.pdf>

If you want more resources you can find some here

1. [A video](#) about how to read math textbooks. Also, [a follow up video](#) where someone actually demonstrates the method.
2. [A different set of tips](#) (although you will see lots of overlap).

Reflection questions

1. When reading the list of tips are there any that surprised you?
2. What things on that list do you already do?
3. Of the steps you do not already do what is one step you would like to try?
4. Even with all these tips, reading math can be challenging. What are ways you can plan to meet that challenge so that when it feels difficult you can still make progress?