Describe some useful skills you learned in a math class from your primary/high school

You should say:

What the skill was

How you learned it

Who taught you

And why it was useful to you

First, I am going to describe the arithmetic mean, which is one of the most basic mathematical skills. The arithmetic mean, or simply the mean or average when context is clear, is the sum of a collection of numbers divided by the number of numbers in the collection. I think, most of us had a concept of average before math teacher of primary school taught us formally. And it is a basic math math skill we need to master. This is one skill we use almost everyday to make a estimation and it is crucial when making decisions. When my son got a fever, we always use the average of three measurements of body temperature as an indicator that help us to decide whether to give him anti-fever medicine. We usually will calculate the average of cell phone bill of the past three months to compared with the new plan that recommend by salesmen. However, if the phone bill of last month was unusually high for some special reasons, the average would be misleading. Then I would use the median, which is the value separating the higher half from the lower half of data sample. The basic advantage of the median in describing data compared to the mean is that it is not skewed so much by extremely large or small values, and so it may give a better idea of a typical value. We usually talk about house prices with median instead of average. Those skills can also help me to shop wisely, buy the right insurance and remodel a home within a budget etcetera. The frequent use of those skills enables me make good decision and lead a more rational and economic lives. I think that is the reason it was useful to me.

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