

Most important three of,

- abstraction
- encapsulation
- polymorphism
- coupling
- cohesion
- delegation

Such a difficult first question for the semester.

The minimum for a coherent mathematical system:

1. Abstraction

Fundamental to math and logic as a whole. A system without abstraction in the general sense, immediately becomes too complex to grow. All science relies on abstraction; this is surely the most critical in an absolute sense.

2. Encapsulation

Now that we have a system minimally expressive, the next priority is organization, legibility, and extensibility. The ability to bundle logic/state is necessary.

3. Cohesion

Cohesion must be beneath encapsulation because cohesion could be thought of the degree to which a set of fields/methods were properly organized; it implies encapsulation. Strong cohesion is understandable code.

Abstraction simplifies and encapsulation/cohesion protect/organize.

And,

4. Coupling, delegation, & polymorphism

Low coupling is more of a by-product of good abstraction & encapsulation. And the other two are techniques to implement the former.

For example,

Bad example. This example has minimal abstraction.

```
water_level = 0
is_on = False

# Making coffee requires knowing all implementation details
if water_level < 200:
    print("Error: Not enough water")
    return

if not is_on:
    print("Powering on machine")
```

```

is_on = True

print("Heating water...")
print("Brewing coffee...")
water_level -= 200
print("Enjoy your coffee!")

```

One could imagine even more basic, without variables having names, as that is an extremely primitive notion of "abstraction".

Better example. Reuse and clarity increase when we abstract logic into methods.

```

water_level = 0
is_on = False

def make_coffee():
    if not _check_water():
        print("Please add water first")
        return
    _power_on()
    _heat_water()
    _brew()
    print("Enjoy your coffee!")

def add_water(amount):
    if amount > 0:
        water_level += amount
        print(f"Added water. Current level: {water_level}ml")
    else:
        print("Invalid water amount")

# Implementation details hidden from user

def _power_on():
    if not is_on:
        is_on = True
        print("Machine powered on")

def _check_water():
    return water_level >= 200

def _heat_water():
    print("Heating water...")

def _brew():
    global water_level
    print("Brewing coffee...")
    water_level -= 200

# Usage
add_water(250)
make_coffee()

```

Good example. Encapsulated state and cohesive organization.

```

class CoffeeMachine:
    def __init__(self):

```

```

# Encapsulated state
self._water_level = 0
self._is_on = False

# Cohesive public interface
def make_coffee(self):
    if not self._check_water():
        print("Please add water first")
        return
    self._power_on()
    self._heat_water()
    self._brew()
    print("Enjoy your coffee!")

def add_water(self, amount):
    if amount > 0:
        self._water_level += amount
        print(f"Added water. Current level: {self._water_level}ml")
    else:
        print("Invalid water amount")

# Encapsulated implementation details
def _power_on(self):
    if not self._is_on:
        self._is_on = True
        print("Machine powered on")

def _check_water(self):
    return self._water_level >= 200

def _heat_water(self):
    print("Heating water...")

def _brew(self):
    print("Brewing coffee...")
    self._water_level -= 200

# Usage
machine = CoffeeMachine()
machine.add_water(250) # state is protected
machine.make_coffee()

```