

MATHEMATICS AS A JOURNEY

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WHAT DOES MATHEMATICS TEACH YOU?

- Critical thinking
- Logical reasoning
- Discipline
- Learning/Applying difficult and complex concepts
- Problem solving
- Generating solutions
- Data analysis
- Pattern recognition
- Identification of relevant and extraneous data
- Computational skills
- Understanding of algorithms and processes

<http://departments.mercer.edu/math/student/whymath.html>



WHAT DO I THINK MATHEMATICS TEACHES YOU?

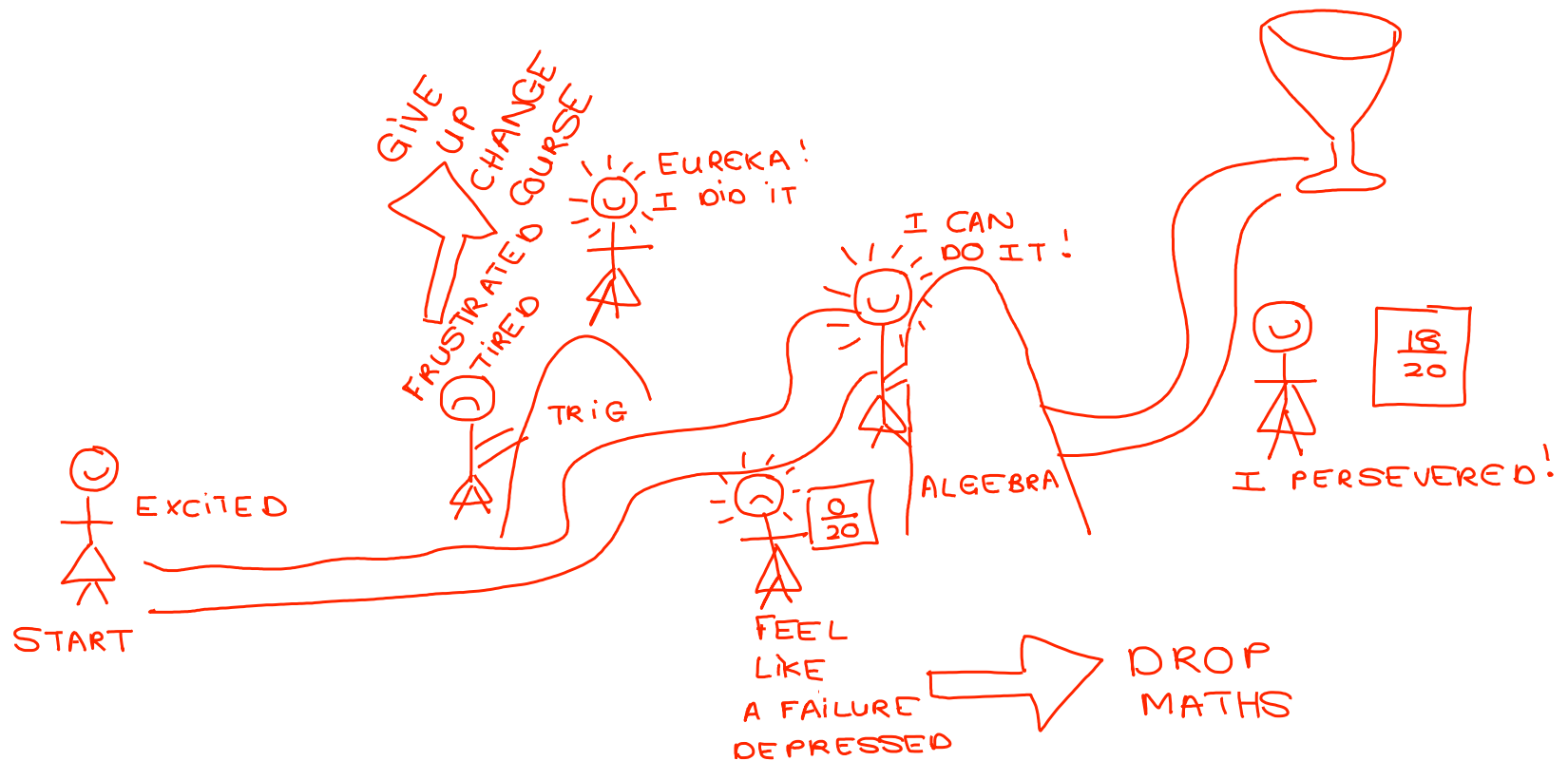
- Determination
- Perseverance
- Failure & success
- Self motivation
- Patience
- Understanding of your uniqueness
- To be competitive

HOW DO I THINK WE CAN USE THIS TO BETTER MARKET MATHEMATICS?

Sell it as a journey

The journey has obstacles along the way, successes, failures and secrets to be discovered

HOW THE JOURNEY IS FOR MOST OF US

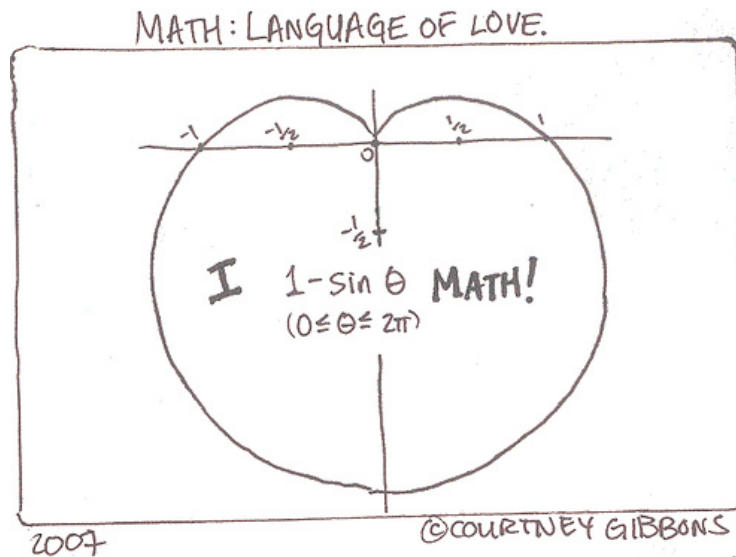


Market it as a course in life skills

TOOLS TO MAKE THE JOURNEY BEARABLE

1. HUMOUR

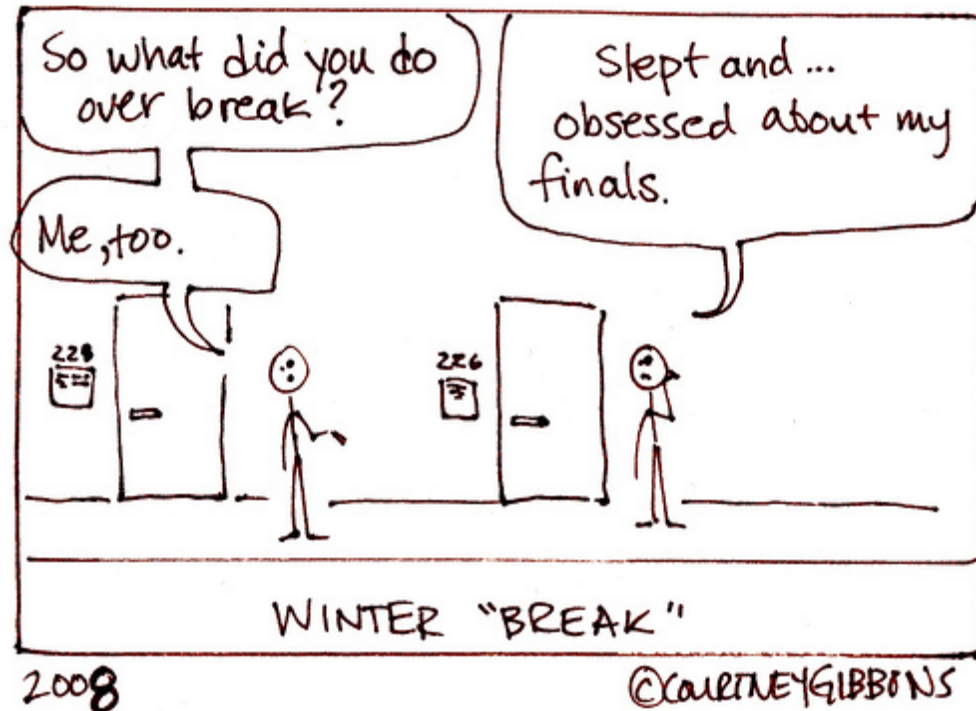
A laugh a day keeps us sane!



- Topic specific best – graduate to understand the humour
- Careful with copyright infringements
- Encourage students to develop new cartoons

2. A MATHS BUDDY

Because every journey can become lonely at times!



- Encourage groups of two
- Could be incorporated into group work
- Encourages Maths communication

3. STRETCHING

A stretch a day keeps the Maths blues away!

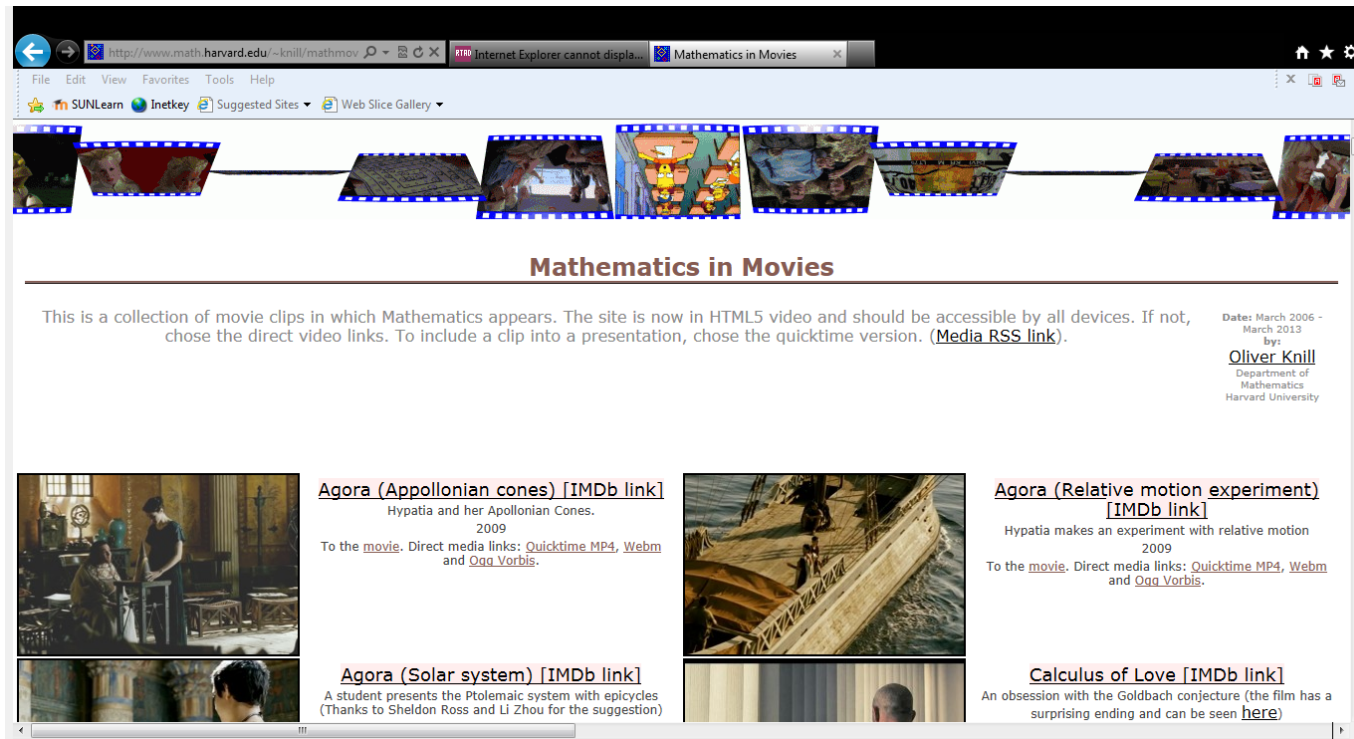
- Works very well while discussing proofs
- Good start to early morning classes
- Can be used to build a team spirit – mexican wave!



- Good technique for tackling a difficult problem
- Soon students ask to stretch

4. MATHS IN THE MOVIES

Hollywood can glamourise maths!



- A list of inspirational movies to see
- Topic specific clips in class – graduate to understand content

5. A PERSONAL TOUCH

Because everyone deserves to be more than just a number!

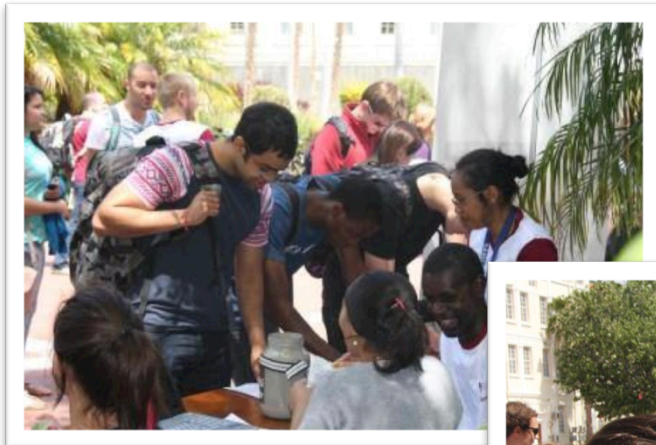
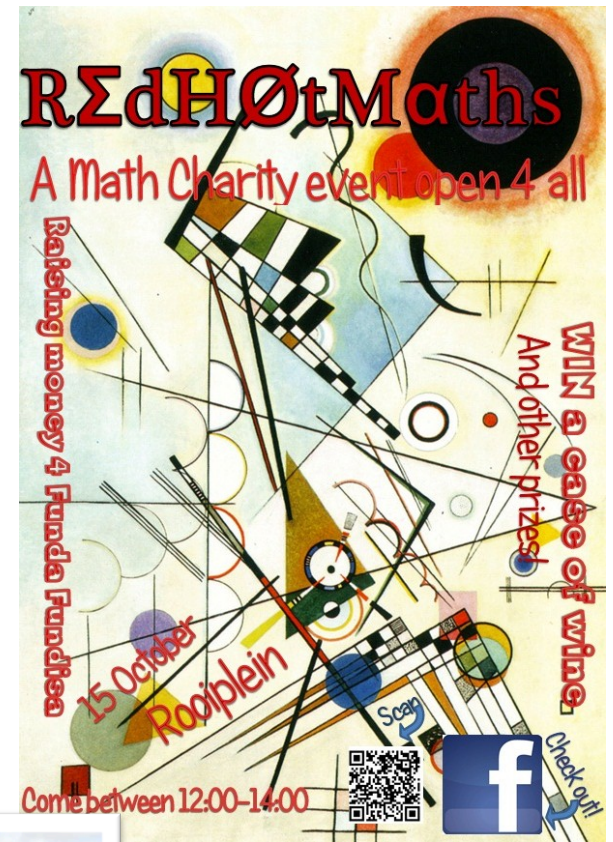
- Essays
- “My tragic flaw”
- “Ten things I want to do before I am 30”
- Individual email response
- Overwhelming positive response

- Establishes a communication link
- Personalises the journey
- Shows accessibility and
- Willingness to help on YOUR journey

MATHS COMMUNICATION @ SUN

Red Hot Maths

- Mathematics on the Rooi Plein
- R5 for a worksheet
- Entry into a lucky draw
- Proceeds donated to charity
- Annual event



Maths Marketing for girls

- Visits to all girl schools by female mathematicians
- Uniqueness of each mathematical journey highlighted
- Strength of having mathematics as a school subject discussed
- Various career options mentioned



THANK YOU!

[HTTP://MATH.SUN.AC.ZA/KARINTHERESE](http://math.sun.ac.za/karinthereese)

