

Rising Eighth Graders and their Parents:

This is the 8A Math packet for the summer of 2017. It includes several things:

1. A discussion about the textbook students will use over the summer and in 8th grade;
2. A list of "homework assignments" to be done over the summer; and
3. A schedule of Math tests that will occur within the first 2-3 weeks of 8th grade.

1. In order to do the summer "homework assignments," students will need the *Algebra I* textbook (which is the same text the students will use in 8th grade). So, I will loan a textbook to each student for use over the summer. If the student is from NK, SK or Narragansett, they will continue to use that book during the school year. If the student is from any other town, they will get their textbook from their town and will return the borrowed textbook to me as soon as possible, but no later than the first day of school. If students want to take advantage of the fact that they have next year's book to look ahead, I encourage that, but only after doing the work assigned in this summer packet.

2. The "homework assignments" for the summer are shown on the other side of this sheet. They are all from the *Algebra I* textbook. As we did in class during the school year, students should read each section (and I mean "actively read!" They should strive to understand the logic behind all examples and apply that logic to all checkpoints) before completing the "homework assignments" for that section. As we did in the homework during the school year, students can check most of their work by looking up the answers to the odd numbered problems in the "Selected Answers" portion of the text (starting on page SA1). Most of these sections review material already covered in 7th grade. There will be new material in three of the sections (those sections are annotated on the other side with the words "New Material" or "Some New Material" to the right of that section's assignment). Students should do their best with the new material. When we return in the fall, we will go over the review sections very quickly, but will spend more time (approx one day each) on the sections which contain new material.

3. During the first few class meetings in the fall, we will do a quick review of all Chapter 1 sections and a more thorough review of the new material in section 1.7. During that review, I will give the students an opportunity to ask questions. After that, we will have the Chapter 1 test. I expect to have the Chapter 1 test within five school days of the first day of school. After the Chapter 1 test, we will do a quick review of all Chapter 2 sections and a more thorough review of the new material in sections 2.4 and 2.7. During that review, I will give the students an opportunity to ask questions. After that, we will have the Chapter 2 test. I expect to have the Chapter 2 test about seven school days after the Chapter 1 test. This will all happen very quickly. Students should plan accordingly. After Chapters 1 and 2, we will cover Chapters 3 and onward at about the same pace we did in the 7A class (ie, usually, one section per day, but occasionally we'll go over into a second day).

With all that as background, the summer “homework assignments” are:

<u>Chapter 1</u>		<u>Chapter 2</u>	
Section 1.1	pp. 6-7, 1-18 all, 19-31 odd, 33, 34, 35-39 odd	Section 2.1	p. 67, 1-17 all, 19-53 odd
Section 1.2	p. 12, 1-16 all, 17-45 odd	Section 2.2	p. 75, 1-35 odd
Section 1.3	p. 19, 1-12 all, 13-39 odd	Section 2.3	p. 82, 1-47 odd
Section 1.4	p. 27, 1-13 all, 15-45 odd	Section 2.4	p. 89, 1-6 all, 7-25 odd New Material
Section 1.5	p. 35, 1-12 all, 13-45 odd	Section 2.5	p. 96, 1-15 all, 17-49 odd
Section 1.6	p. 43, 1-21 all	Section 2.6	p. 103, 1-18 all, 19-47 odd, 61-69 odd
Section 1.7	p. 49, 1-9 all, 11-19 odd New Material	Section 2.7	p. 111, 1-15 all, 17-51 odd Some New Material
Chapt Review	pp. 54-56, 1-29 all	Section 2.8	p. 117, 1-8 all, 9-21 odd
Chapt Test	p. 57, 1-29 all	Chapt Review	pp. 122-24, 1-52 all
Chapt Stand Test	pp. 58-59, 1-22 all	Chapt Test	p. 125, 1-41 all
		Chapt Stand Test	p. 127, 1-20 all

Each of these assignments will take approximately 1 to 1½ hours to complete (this is a rough average; the exact time needed will vary with each student and with each section). Since there are 21 assignments listed above, that’s approximately 20-30 hours of work required sometime over the summer. Students should plan accordingly. I will not collect these homeworks. Students are doing them to prepare for tests and for 8th grade, not to submit them.

Beyond this summer packet, I also encouraged the students to prepare for the High School Placement Test (HSPT) in December. If they have questions about any problems they encounter during their HSPT prep, they can ask me at an extra help session (over the summer or next year).

I hope the students enjoyed 7th grade Math and are excited about 8th grade Math. I’ve gathered this summer packet with the intent of helping them retain what they learned in 7th grade and to help us get off to a good start in their 8th grade Math class (so they can get where they need to before high school). As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Thank you for your attention,

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