

**summarized notes from
Jerry Shurman's Math Writing Workshop**

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- ▷ Like anything, writing takes continual, effective practice - the limits of intellect will be reached.
- ▷ Geometry / Algebra / algorithms / natural language... different ways of looking at the same problems

General Structure of Math Writing

- ▷ Introduction, overview
- ▷ Foreshadowing
- ▷ Variable pacing, emphasis and de-emphasis - use shortened versions of techniques that it's already assumed you know, ie. "x holds by a standard induction argument" after finishing induction
- ▷ Periodic review and recollection - remind reader of previous ideas before synthesizing them with current ones
- ▷ Summary
- ▷ Rewrite! (if possible)

**Basic Unit for 111-112-211-212:
Exercise-Solution**

Generally one or several paragraphs long

- ▷ Quote the problem (courtesy to grader + future self)
- ▷ Explain guiding processes as you go
- ▷ Explain or say *why* the solution is complete

Other Stuff

- ▷ Keep notation sparse - minimize superscripts, subscripts
- ▷ Use whitespace, spread work out
- ▷ Look to serve reader in terms of \exists , \forall ... what would make more sense?
- ▷ There is *no perfect ideal* for writing - keep working
- ▷ The phrase "note that" - a little annoying. Points out something one wouldn't have thought of previously...

(the end)