

WRITING ASSIGNMENT 3, 18.100C

Submission details. Due on Stellar by 11:59P.M. on Thursday, November 3. 2–3 pages.

Goal. Mathematicians need to explain mathematics to audiences with varying levels of sophistication. In this assignment, you will practice explaining the same mathematical content to three different audiences.

Assignment. Choose a mathematical statement and explain it to three audiences of your choosing.

- Each explanation should be approximately one page in length.
- One audience should be mathematically sophisticated and another should be genuinely unsophisticated.
- Try to choose a specific, well-defined mathematical statement. A good example might be “the Mean Value Theorem.” A bad example might be “analysis in the 20th century.”
- Organize your paper in three sections, titling each section with the intended audience. Include a brief (1-2 sentences) description of each audience’s mathematical background.

To get you thinking about potential audiences, here are a few samples (feel free to draw from this list or invent your own):

- your grandfather,
- President Obama,
- the interviewer at your Google job interview,
- Jeffrey Lebowksi,
- Susan Hockfield,
- Euclid.

Technical details. Write your paper in \LaTeX in the `amsart` document class, 11-point font. Do not manually alter any of the formatting, but do use theorem and proof environments when appropriate.

Submit both `.tex` and `.pdf` files via Stellar. Your grade will be based on clarity of exposition, mathematical correctness, readability of \LaTeX , and audience-appropriateness. The assignment is worth 35 points.