


Taking Math Notes

Lesson Title


Course Name
Your Name
Date


Write a question mark next to anything you don't understand. Ask for help, don't just let it go!

THREE-COLUMN METHOD

There are many ways to take notes for math, but one of the most popular and effective methods is the three-column method. The three-column method involves dividing the paper into three columns: key words, examples or problems, and explanations or descriptions.

This method allows for easy scanning of notes to locate certain pieces of information. Notes taken using the three-column method may be used as **study guides** for exam or quiz preparation.


Draw your columns clearly so you can see where your notes end and your samples begin!

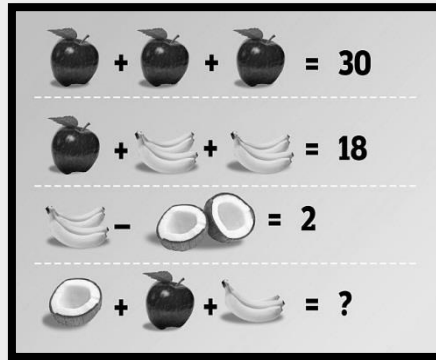
Key Words

Record **key words**, **ideas**, and **formulas** used in the math problems. Keep it brief.


Draw yourself a nice thick line between topics so they're clearly marked.

Examples/Problems

Record the **math problems** in the middle column. Write them step by step. **Show ALL of your work!** If you don't show your work, you won't be able to visibly see what you did later!



Explain/Describe

Record **descriptions**, **explanations**, or **discussion** about the math problem. For each step of the problem, write down the corresponding description or explanation. This will help you **decipher what the work you did meant** and why you did it later.

The next stage is to **edit and clarify** your notes. Within 24 hours of your class, go back over your notes. Edit your notes to clarify information, answer questions, and supplement notes with things you've learned from reading or cooperation with your classmates. **Highlight** important information for easy access. Don't forget to study your notes and do all of your homework—even the best notes are useless if you don't use them!

Now you're ready for math!