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**BSED-MATH 3A**

Solving problems is just a maze it’s like finding your way in thinking how to break that maze in order to come up a best result. We start knowing our path, but we used to know what we know, and try new things until we get to an end. Wherein, I can say that problem solving is a journey from a state of confusion, a process of applying knowledge and clarity to overcome each question or problem. In solving problems it’s kind of like being dropped in the middle of nowhere, your lost and no one would dare to give you clue or ideas, it’s just your understandings.

My own experiences with problem solving, both academic settings and beyond have shaped my understanding of its importance. One of my memories of engaging in problem solving was during my elementary and high school mathematics competition which is called MTAP. In that day, one of my favorite subjects was mathematics but problem solving was my biggest difficulty. I can’t hardly understand the question, even its just a simple one. Maybe I can do solving but guided with some solutions on how to solve it but, on the other hand, I can’t solved problem with given problem specifically word problems that’s why I always got a low score. And the problem presented also was unlike anything I had encountered. It required not just application of formulas, but a deep understanding. That’s why when were here in college, we encountered a problem solving, I could say that, I was having so much difficulty in terms of understanding or analyzing. It was just like I need to have a step-by-step solution in order to solve the problem. And I have also a difficulty in different types of mathematical problem not just in problem solving. However, as I began to break down the problem into smaller, and note manageable part it gives more clarity and understanding in each given questions. So that, in order to keep me understands, easily analyze and answer the problem I apply different approaches, in that way I can easily identify the problem and gradually pieced together a solution.

This experience, and many others like this, has led me to appreciate the value of a problem solving. I realized that this ways of solving can benefit my understanding and analyzing in dealing with problem solving. To share with what I prefer to understand the problem and incorporating my own insights, I found Polya’s problem solving techniques which is particularly useful in my mathematics. Polya’s framework emphasizes understanding the problem wherein it involves understanding, analyzing the problem statement, and identifying key information. The second one is devising a plan which is when I understood the problem, it involves brainstorming and selecting approach to solve the problem. The third one is carrying out the plan, where the chosen strategy is implemented. And the last is looking back it is the final stage of the problem wherein checking the solutions and problem-solving process, it includes the verifying of the correct answers.