

Math 8
Fall 2015

Written Homework
Due Monday, September 21

Note: Standard (not preliminary) written homework is graded on your work and your explanations, not just on your answer.

Explanations are important for many reasons. Being able to communicate what you know shows a depth of understanding beyond that of being able to get the right answer to a problem. Doing the mental work of putting explanations into words helps create that depth of understanding. On exams, we will grade your work and not just your answers, so this is good practice for taking exams.

For all these reasons, be sure to: show all your work; explain your reasoning; use clear English; write neatly so all this effort does not go to waste.

Written homework is always due at the *beginning* of class.

1. If $P_n(x)$ is the n^{th} Taylor polynomial for $f(x) = \ln x$ centered at $a = 1$, what is $P_5(x)$?
2. Use Taylor's inequality to find a bound on the error in using $P_5(1.5)$ as an approximation for $\ln(1.5)$.
3. Use Taylor's inequality to estimate how large n must be in order for $P_n(2)$ to approximate $\ln(2)$ with an error at most as large as the error you found in question (2).