



NORMS

In Math



What is a norm

- Something socially created
- Something socially accepted
- Something that controls our behavior
- Can be profoundly difficult to break

- [Watch this](#)



Are norms a problem?

- Usually not
- But some are worth challenging
- ... on the balance of evidence and common sense, it is possible to change norms



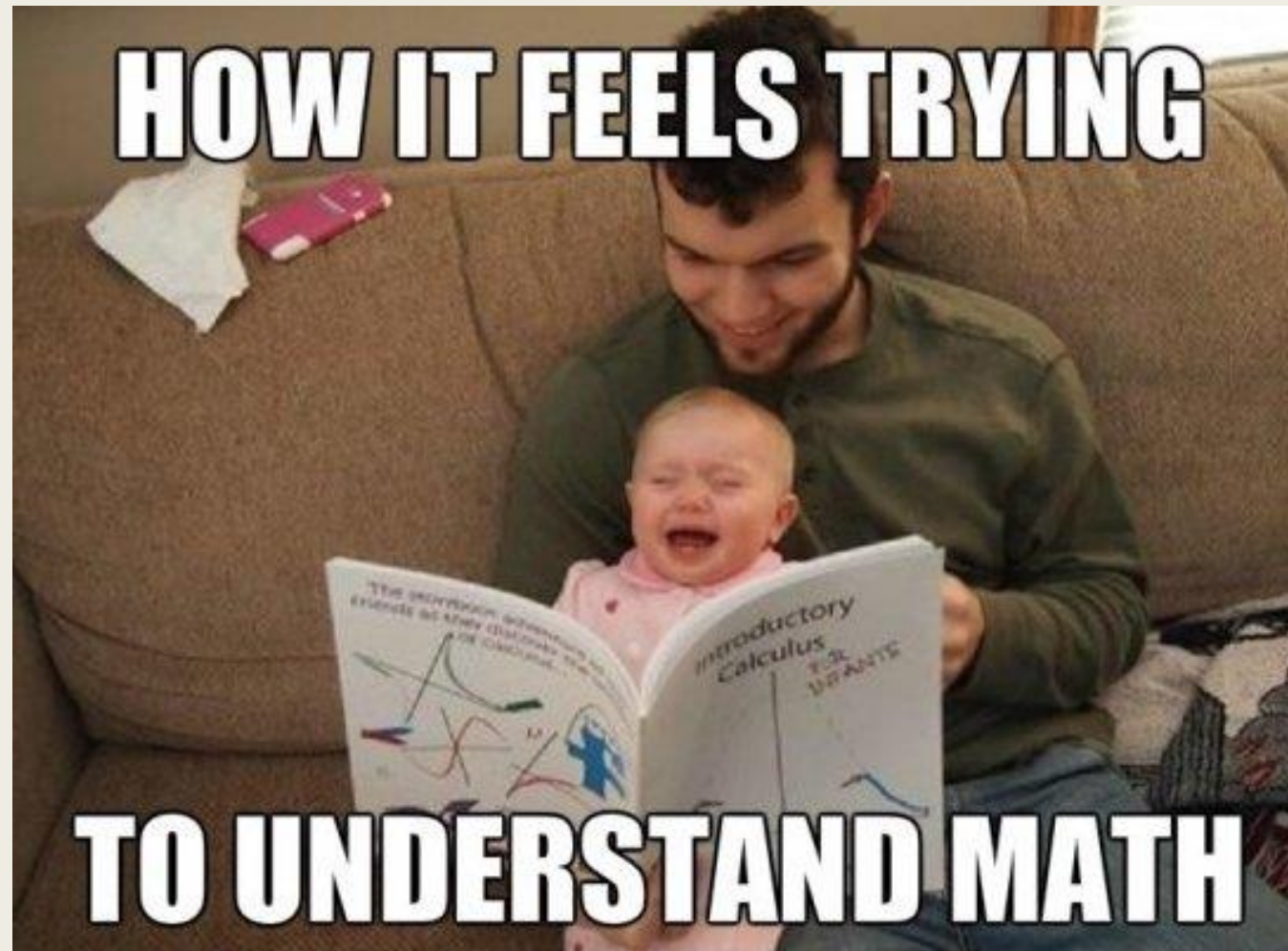
Norms in Math

How I see math word problems:

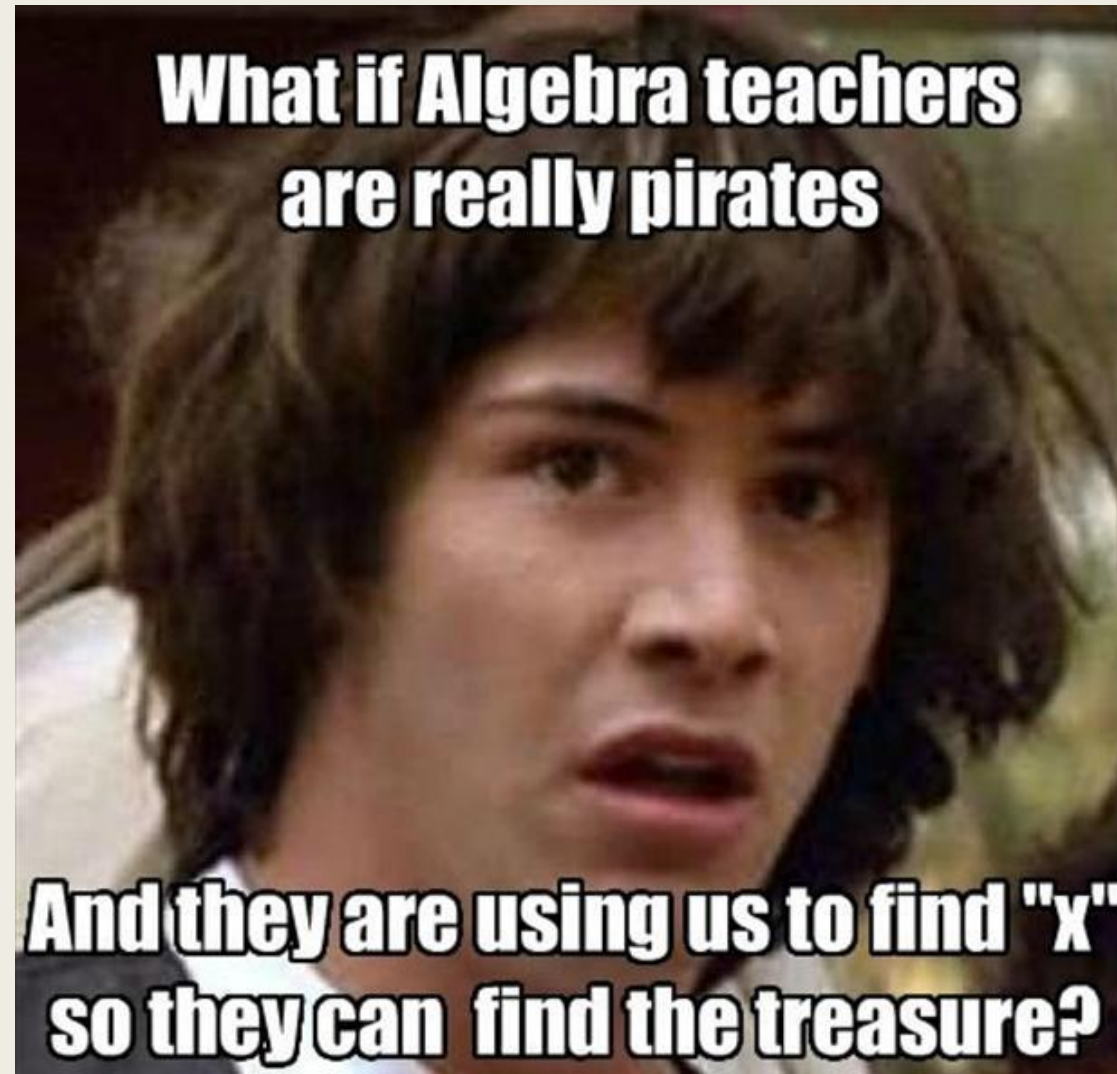


**If you have 4 pencils and I
have 7 apples, how many
pancakes will fit on the roof?
Purple, because aliens don't
wear hats.**

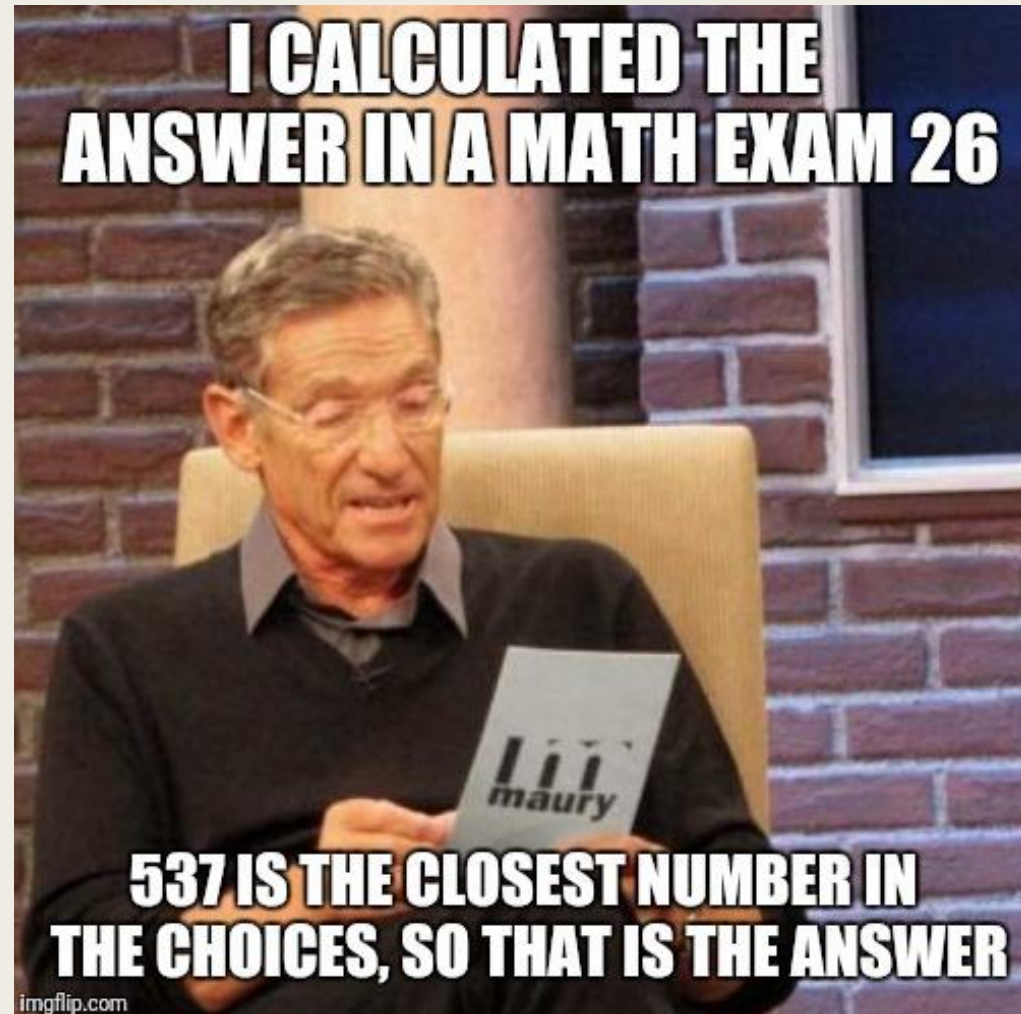
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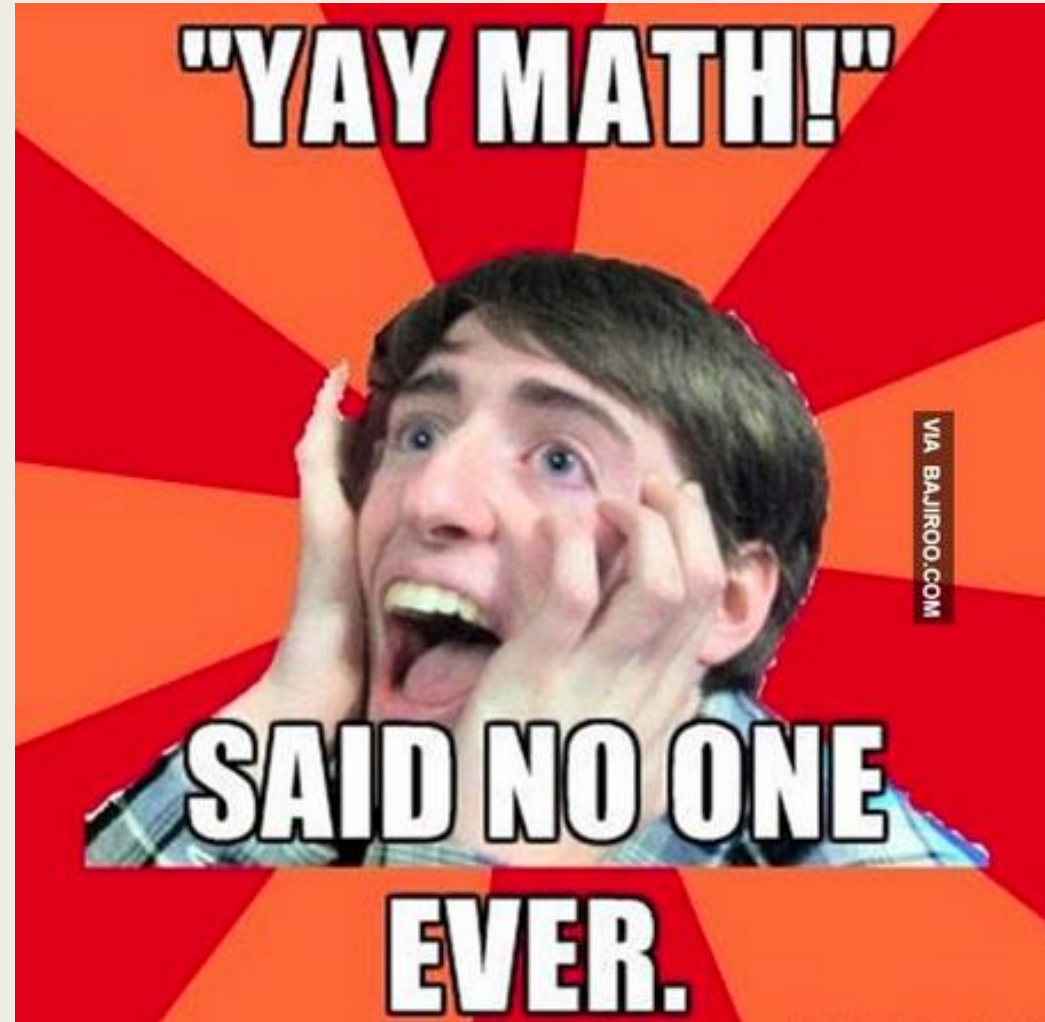
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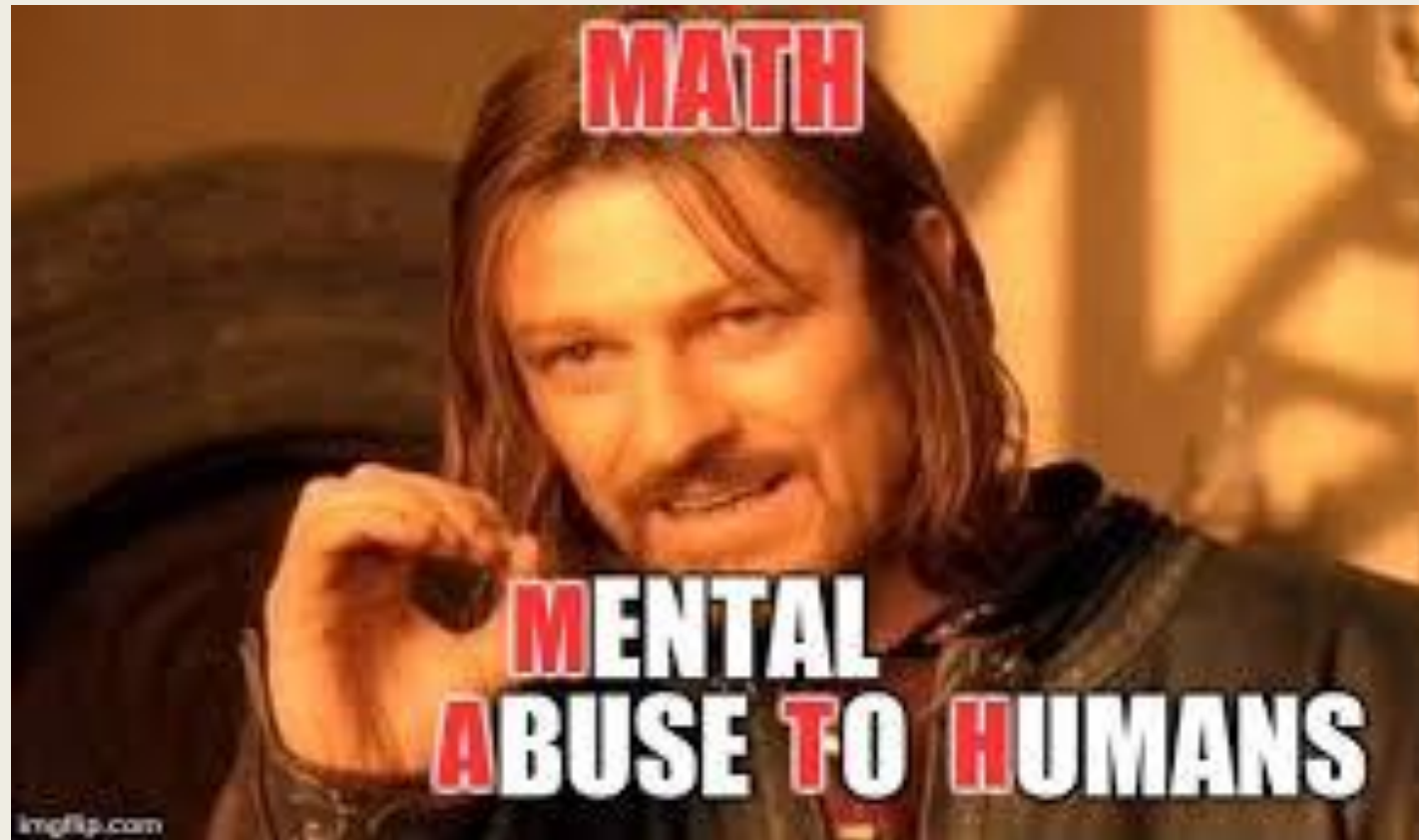
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Norms in Math



What norms do you see?

- Math is incomprehensible
- Math is an insignificant waste of time
- Math is difficult
- It is ok to live a life without understanding math

THESE ARE NORM THAT ARE WORTH CHALLENGING

How do we change this norm?

- Watch your words; for they become thoughts.
- Watch your thoughts; for they become actions.
- Watch your actions; for they become habits.
- Watch your habits; for they become character.
- Watch your character for it will become your destiny.”

Language that is not allowed in this class

- Math is incomprehensible
- Math is an insignificant waste of time
- Math is difficult
- It is ok to live a life without understanding math