

Using Think Alouds to Remove Bottlenecks in Mathematics

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Abstract

Think alouds are a research tool originally developed by cognitive psychologists for the purpose of studying how people solve problems. The basic idea being that if a subject can be trained to think out aloud while completing a certain task then the introspections can be analyzed and may provide insights into misunderstandings as well as higher thinking. This talk is a preliminary report of a think aloud conducted with calculus students to understand their difficulties with work problems in integral calculus.

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