

## MATHEMATICS: UNDERRATED YET MOST EFFECTIVE LANGUAGE

*by:*

**Precious C. Somo**

*Teacher II, Mathematics Lamao National High School*

Many will disagree after hearing that Mathematics is considered a language because the common knowledge of people about math is it is about numbers, computations, and problem-solving only. However, The Great Galileo Galilee, hailed and considered math as one, that is, math is a language. He even said that Math is the language that God utilized while forming the world. Even after hearing this thought, it is still hard to fathom that math is a language since it does not have any properties of a language.

While math is bombarded with symbols, shapes, numerical values, and formulae, it also contains the primary system of communications needed to be considered as a language. It has its own vocabulary, syntax, and mathematical grammar (Helmenstine, 2019). With these, it is clear that mathematics can be considered a true language spoken by scholars and learned individuals. Helmenstine also added a brief explanation as to why she considers math a language.

### Vocabulary

Mathematics has its own terms, or jargon, as many people might say. The lexical bank of math is quite tremendous and aloof to the ears of the public, except only if they are inclined toward scholarly activities. Ever since elementary, students are already encountering mathematical terms, but only the basic ones. If a person ever pursues a math profession, tons and hundreds of locutions will be run into. To summarize, math is one step close to being qualified to be a language because of its vocabs.

## Grammar

Since there were ample to no words that can be seen while solving math, it is hard to understand how other people can justify that math is following mathematical grammar. In the English language, there is a prescriptive grammar that people are tasked to follow. This is to encourage the proper use of formal English and to deliver a clearer and one-meaning message. Just like in math, grammar is used to send an idea from one another using mathematical terms.

## Parts of Speech

Under Grammar, parts of speech are the basic and first lesson that is ought to be discussed; for math to be considered as a language, one must also contain these types of things. The numbers, symbols, names, and such are all considered nouns, the act of operating each equation is a verb, and even conjunctions, adjectives, and infinitives are expected to be seen in math; thus, it is considered as a language.

## Syntax

The syntax is the proper designation and placement of each word in a sentence. In mathematics, every position of any term is important. For an instance,  $10-5=5$ , while  $5-10=-5$ . In this example, it is evident that the answer changed just because of the location of the

terms. Another example is  $10>20$  and  $10<20$ . In this one, only the second one is correct because 10 is lesser than 20, while the first one is incorrect because 10 will never be greater than 20. With this and the facts presented above, math is a certified language.

These and more are reasons why Mathematics is a language.

*References:*

Helmenstine, A. M. (2019, June 27). Why Mathematics Is a Language. Retrieved from Thought co.: <https://www.thoughtco.com/why-mathematics-is-a-language-4158142#:~:text=Mathematics%20meets%20this%20definition%20of,every%20country%20of%20the%20world.>