

A Homework Strategy That Works With Math and Math-Based Science



When you check your homework and find an incorrect answer, you should start the problem over again from scratch on an entirely different sheet of paper. Do NOT look over your incorrect problem to find the mistake, just immediately start the problem a second time. The answer to your second try will tell the student where their error is.

- ⇒ A correct second answer indicates a fluke/mental mistake has occurred. You should check the first problem, identify what that error was, and be more mindful of it in future problems.
- ⇒ If you get the same incorrect answer on the second try, this means you have learned lesson incorrectly and/or there is a particular step or process that you have skipped. Identify the step/process you have mistaken (for example, not following the Order of Operations while completing the problem and performing the multiplication portions before the addition/subtraction portions). Once you have identified the step/process and corrected it continue on to other problems.
- ⇒ If you get a different wrong answer on their second try from the wrong answer on their first try, it means you do not have a consistent understanding/foundation of the material. If a student has this happen more than one time in a section, you should stop your work and return to the chapter's lesson and sample problem and reread the entire section related to the problems they have missed. You can also ask your teacher questions to clarify the steps.

