

Three Problem-Solving Strategies for Mathematics and for Life

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Thank you so much for coming today.

Here are three questions for you, as "food for thought", based on the key points from today's session.

I hope that these principles (or "problem-solving strategies") will be useful to you: both now and in your future.

Principle #1: Start with what you know to figure out what you don't know.

Application: What issues are you most deeply passionate about, and how might you pursue further learning in these areas? In what ways have you already (or might one day) contribute to society by applying your passion to inspire positive change?

Principle #2: Challenge your assumptions. Question everything.

Application: What assumptions have you made in forming your personal values and beliefs? (e.g. relating to your friendships, your body image, your self-esteem and self-worth, your belief/non-belief in a higher power, your priorities, your career aspirations, etc.)

Principle #3: Convert difficult problems into equivalent simpler problems.

Application: What issues are you most deeply passionate about? For each of these issues, reflect on how your education is preparing you to address these challenges, and how you might pursue further learning in these areas upon graduation.

How can you be the change you wish to see in this world?