

Example of practice

Explicit instruction in secondary mathematics

Examples of practice demonstrate effective practice in different education settings. You can use them to think about how to apply the practice in your own context.

Lesson context

This example of practice comes from a Year 9 trigonometry lesson. The students in this class have been working with right angled triangles, and have just learned about the sine, cosine and tangent functions. The teacher has also been working with the students to understand how to solve equations before using their calculators for the final step.

Modelled practice

When I am presenting new learning to students, I make sure to plan examples where I can model my thinking process and have students

Once I explain this, I introduce the first problem of the day.

There is a ball stuck on the school roof and I need to figure out how tall the school is so that I can find an appropriate ladder. When I stand 10m from the base of the school, the angle of elevation is 70° . How tall is the school?

As I read the problem, I had students to draw with me. We all drew the school, and then drew the line between me and the base of the school. I asked them to label the distance of the line, and to hold it up for me to check.

I then called on students to tell me what the angles that we know are, allowing for many