

Get Extra Help

How to... How to... How to...

1 Have your questions ready. When you see your teacher for extra help, **don't say anything like**, "I don't have a clue what's going on." Rather, work through your class notes – definitions, examples, theorems, and proofs – thoroughly, and be prepared to say, "I understand everything up to this point. How did we get from here to here?" In other words, **do your part!** Spend quality time with the material.

2 Get into study groups. Then one representative of your group can see your teacher for help with problems and report back to the others. Also, with group expertise, more often than not, you will solve most problems yourselves.

3 Struggle more than a little. Don't give up after one attempt. Make a sincere effort to sort out your problems. That way, when you say, "I am stuck **RIGHT HERE!**", you will be so **up** on the problem that your teacher's explanation will be clear.

Have you ever had this experience?

A teacher is explaining a concept or technique in answer to your question. You are nodding your head, saying, "Uh huh! Uh huh! Yes, I understand." Yet you're thinking, "I don't have a clue what the teacher is talking about."

It can happen, but it's **rare**, that the teacher isn't explaining the problem well. Usually, though, the blame lies, yes, with the student, who hasn't struggled enough so that the teacher's explanation can work. **Struggle more than a little!**

- Review each day's notes as soon as possible – definitely before the next class.
- Do your homework before the next class.
- Participate in class.
- Form study groups with classmates.
- Don't fall behind.

**SOME
SPECIFIC
STRATEGIES**