Basic Numeracy Skills and Practice

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Preface

This text presents the basic numeracy skills required in an introductory course in mathematics. The skills are presented through a series of logical steps that will establish confidence in attempting any of the questions. The text is suitable for children and teachers in primary schools, for pupils starting a course in CSE mathematics at the various modes, and for the adult returning to study after a number of years. It is suitable for self-help group teaching or for individuals working by themselves.

The text may be used as a primary teaching book or supplementary material to a main textbook. To facilitate ease of working, exercises are graded within each group from elementary to more complex since I believe proficiency in mathematics is directly related to practice.

The text commences with an introduction to the way problems may be attempted and progresses through fractions, numbers, transposition, equations, graphical methods and their applications, to indices, logarithms and finally an introduction to angles and trigonometrical ratios.

Each chapter presents the theory and principles which are then applied through worked examples. At the end of each section additional questions are presented. Revision exercises are found at intermediate parts of the book — the answers at the end of the book are amplified where necessary, especially in the case of graphical questions. The text has been presented such that the student may study progressively or use individual sections without loss of clarity.

The combination of presenting the principles and concepts of elementary numeracy through worked examples and

additional graded questions will I trust give confidence to the reader. The questions, exercises and solutions are completely my responsibility.

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