

Dear _____ [Insert your name here so that you feel loved and wanted!]:

EXCITEMENT First, let me say that I am *very* excited to have you in my Precalculus Honours class. I hope you shall have a fruitful and productive year. I primarily teach upper-level classes: along with Precalculus Honours, I am the sole teacher for AP Statistics class [**the** most successful AP class in La Sierra High School - last year, it had a pass rate of 96.3%, and I hope to replicate that performance despite having *double* the number of students this past year].

MY OFFICE In passing, my classroom for next year has changed: from 101 to 101A! Yes, it's next door...but it has an OFFICE. This way, I can pompously declare:

- "Meet me in my OFFICE during OFFICE HOURS!"
- "**I** was in my OFFICE! Where were **you**?"
- "Sorry, I left the folder in my OFFICE!"
- "Damned sorry, old boy! *That* decision was made in my OFFICE. So it's OFFICIAL!"
- "I'm sorry, I shan't brook any further discussion out here in public - let's discuss the matter in my OFFICE!"

COMMUNICATION ALL communication in my Precalculus Honours class is accomplished by email *alone*. That is, ALL Homework is sent via email. Qs / clarifications? Send me an email! I spend the *entire* class time teaching. This has been the case for the last 4 years. I do *not* hand out "assignment sheets" in class. I plan the HW immediately after coming home...and students receive their Math HW *every single day* well before 5pm. The benefit is this: I shall never assign you something I didn't teach in class. But, alas, you must have robust and reliable email access...every single day of the school year [either at home / at the public library]. If this is going to be an issue, **let me know** and I'll make some accommodations to account for your constraints.

EMAIL ADDRESS This is my email: innovationguy@gmail.com. Feel free to ask me any Qs you may have. [Write it down!]

EMAIL ETIQUETTE A note about email etiquette:

1. Address me as Mr. Ramaswamy OR Ramaswamy. I *prefer* **Dear** before my name because it is the courteous thing...To catch my attention, use LORD Ramaswamy [?!].

2. **Always, always, always** *identify yourself formally* by signing off with your name. Some of you scoundrels do *not* have your names as part of your email addresses. It's devilishly complicated for me to "look your name up" [and what a bloody waste of time *that is!*].

3. Use **Please** and **Thank You** frequently.

Warning!

I shall be dismissive of your emails when the above 3 principles are violated. You shall receive a message of the following sort:

Message Undeliverable due to Poor Email Etiquette / Rudeness: **re-send!**

4. I shall simply ignore messages of the sort:

Send the HW! or

What did we do today? or

I don't understand!

Better version: *Dear Mr. Ramaswamy, I was absent today? Could I please have the HW?
Thank You.
ABC*

SWITCH TO GMAIL! Most of you have emails that have *yahoo, hotmail, live, aol, sbcglobal*, etc. as the prefix. Having used many of them - I'm *much* older than you are, see?! - I can assert that the email service I use, gmail.com, is THE most efficient and powerful one ever devised by man! **I earnestly recommend that you set up a [Gmail account](http://gmail.com) - it takes ~ 45sec to establish one.** Here are its advantages: it is designed by the SMARTEST chaps in the UNIVERSE - Google. [One needs to have an IQ exceeding that of 99% of other fellows to be *employed* at Google!] They *know* what they're doing.

Needless to say, the Search capabilities of the email service are simply matchless. The other thing is that **I** use Gmail, and students with the service get my emails the quickest! Furthermore, AOL, Microsoft [which runs Hotmail and Live], Yahoo, etc. are Gmail's *competitors* - there have been occasions when my emails have bounced off as "Undeliverable". Most importantly, students - historically - have seen the wisdom of my endorsement: with Gmail, you can CHAT [~ Instant Message] with me if you have Qs on the Math HW; students routinely ask me clarifications via Gmail CHAT.

ODD SPELLING Having had a British education, I employ spelling as used in the *civilized* world [what the deuce!] but don't let that *bewildre* you, yes? [OK, I *did* misspell bewilder over there, haha!]

GENERAL SUGGESTIONS Check your email frequently over the summer for Notifications / Tips / Suggestions / Jokes [!]. What's the bloody use of email IF you don't check it regularly, yes?!

Feel free to email me in case of doubts, Qs and clarifications. Before that, do consult your friends for illumination, yes?

I strongly encourage you to **do the summer-work with friends** also in the Precalculus Honours class: it shall strengthen relationships and enable you to consult each other!

SUMMER WORK Let's - finally! - address the Summer work. This email contains detailed information and instructions about the Precalculus Honours Summer-work. If you have any Qs / issues PLEASE email me [at innovationguy@gmail.com] without an ounce of unnecessary delay - I shall be *delighted* to resolve these promptly.

What is DIFFERENT this year? In years past, I'd laboriously check out textbooks to students and have them work through problems from the book. This year, I'm attempting to make the Summer work process smoother. I've simply scanned the *pages* from the textbook from which the Qs were obtained. **BOTTOMLINE:** You do **not** need a book this year (checked out to you).

PRECALCULUS HONOURS SUMMER WORK: There are NINE documents in all that you need to download / take a print-out of.

Document #1-7: Find 7 documents in PDF format. Download them. These constitute

the primary *source* of your Summer work. The documents are labeled in terms of the page numbers of an Algebra II textbook [*not* the one you used last year...but the one we used to use *before* we switched textbooks - bottomline, these page numbers are from the older edition]. You are NOT doing ALL the Qs: the ones you need to focus on is in the *next* document!

Document #8: Next, **find a document in WORD format** called *Trig. Precalculus Honours Summer-work 2010-11*. **Download it**. This document has detailed NOTES to do your Summer work. For BEST results, study this **each time** you start your work.
has the actual list of Qs to do from the first set of 7 documents!

Document #9: Finally, to review skills vital for Calculus BC, find **ATTACHED a document in WORD format** called *Precalculus Summer work Word Problems* **Download it**. This reflects the style of Qs we shall deal with *on a daily basis*. Ask around: MOST of my Test Qs are Word Problems [of course, I shall prepare you *well* for them! My class averages for the last TWO years has been ~ 87%!].

AP Calculus stresses the *applications* of [advanced] algebra to reflect / solve real-life problems, and *my* class shall value and train for that vital skill. The word problems are not particularly challenging - you've done [or *should have done!*] quite a lot of their kind on a regular basis during the school year!

HIGH EXPECTATIONS You chaps are *supposedly* the creme de la creme of the Algebra II students. I trust you shall conduct yourselves in a fashion reflecting a sparkling intelligence and a resolute work-ethic. **Translation:** show yourselves to be smart *and* hard-working! After all, the Precalculus Honours class shall make enormous *intellectual* demands of you. Why? Because it is the Honours class that is the primary *source* for the AP Calculus BC - the smartest / most diligent amongst you shall be placed in Calculus BC while the slackers shall be compelled to take Calculus AB, then BC. In contrast, virtually all Regular Precalculus students are put in Calculus AB.

Please ask your friends - if you have any...GULP! - especially those that have had me as a teacher, what sort of fellow I am: I can *promise* you THE most fun you'll have in High School *while* working hard!

INFORMATION NEEDED **Please furnish the following information immediately...for my records!** In case of [REPEAT] Information, feel free to write: *See 6b for 7b or As above!* Likewise, say **Not Applicable** *when*, um, Not Applicable!

Email the information to me, Jay Ramaswamy – innovationguy@gmail.com

1. Name [First / Last]:
2. Cellphone # [for Emergency Contact Only!]:
3. Address:
4. Alternate Addresses [for Summer, **if applicable**]:
5. Home Phone #:
- 6a) Mother / Female Guardian's Name:

- b) Mother / Female Guardian's Address:
 - c) Mother / Female Guardian's Work Phone # [for Emergency purposes Only!]:
 - d) Mother / Female Guardian's Home Phone #:
 - e) Mother / Female Guardian's CellPhone #[for Emergency purposes Only!]:
 - 7a) Father / Male Guardian's Name:
 - b) Father / Male Guardian's Address:
 - c) Father / Male Guardian's Work Phone # [for Emergency purposes Only!]:
 - d) Father / Male Guardian's Home Phone #:
 - e) Father / Male Guardian's CellPhone #[for Emergency purposes Only!]:
8. Last Math Teacher:

Looking forward to a fruitful year, I am,

Jay Ramaswamy.

PS. If there is STILL any confusion about the Summer work lingering in your minds, here is a

Summer work Summary: There are NINE documents in all that you need to download / take a print-out of.

These are the documents that function like a textbook and are the ACTUAL Qs that need to be done. [But not ALL OF THEM!] That is, these are WHERE the Qs are! -----> **Document #1-7: Find ATTACHED 7 documents in PDF format. Download them.** These constitute the primary *source* of your Summer work. The documents are labeled in terms of the page numbers of an Algebra II textbook [*not* the one you used last year...but the one we used to use *before* we switched textbooks - bottomline, these page numbers are from the older edition]. You are NOT doing ALL the Qs: the ones you need to focus on is in the *next* document!

Precalculus Honours Summerwork P 16, 22, 24, 29, 45.pdf (*application/pdf*) 235K

Precalculus Honours Summerwork P 72, P79, P 86.pdf (*application/pdf*) 169K

Precalculus Honours Summerwork P 95, P 111, P 117, P 153, P 260.pdf (*application/pdf*) 168K

Precalculus Honours Summerwork P 260, P 267, P 277, P295, P 336.pdf (*application/pdf*) 181K

Precalculus Honours Summerwork P 336, P 341, P 356, P 376, P 405.pdf (*application/pdf*) 178K

Precalculus Honours Summerwork P 426, P 490, P 496, 505.pdf (*application/pdf*) 172K

Precalculus Honours Summerwork P 558, 566, 592.pdf (*application/pdf*) 141K

This is the document with Notes and has the Q # that need to be done from **Document #1-7. above** [recall that you're not doing all the Qs!]. That is, this tells you WHAT to do ----->

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Trig. Precalculus Honours Summer-work 2010-11.doc (application/msword) 62K

Finally, there is a document with Word Problems. -----> Document #9: Finally, to review skills vital for Calculus BC, find **ATTACHED a document in WORD format** called *Precalculus Summer work Word Problems* **Download it**. This reflects the style of Qs we shall deal with *on a daily basis*. Ask around: MOST of my Test Qs are Word Problems [of course, I shall prepare you *well* for them! My class averages for the last TWO years has been ~ 87%!]

Precalculus Summer Work Word Problems.doc (application/msword) 18K

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