

The purpose of an Algebra I course is to introduce students to the meaning and use of certain basic algebraic concepts: such as literal symbols, formula, polynomial functions, graphs, numerical and algebraic expressions, equations and inequalities. It is not intended that the algebraic work shall lead to any large degree of technical skill in algebraic operations or, thought of solely in terms of its preparatory values. Rather, it is conceived as serving a dual purpose of extending the conceptual background of the students as a sound transitional basis for later work and of providing mathematical experiences interesting in themselves and more general than those encountered in the earlier arithmetic.